

EUROPEAN NEWS

David Housego reports on the threat to Lorraine

Valley of despair for French steelworkers

STEELWORKERS in Lorraine, once the heartland of the French steel industry, are now increasingly resigned to the inevitability of more plant closures.

At Longwy, where workers battled with riot police only four years ago to avoid extensive lay-offs and where even six months ago people believed the blast furnaces and smelting shops had won a reprieve from President Francois Mitterrand's Socialist administration, there are now no illusions about the fresh threat.

"We fear that the Government is backing down from the 1982 steel plan," says M. Albert Falck, a local official of the Communist-led CGT union. The plan, opposed by the Communists as being insufficiently ambitious, proposed to boost French steel production to 24m tonnes by 1986. French steel output is likely to be about 17m tonnes this year. "The plan was unrealistic and Utopian," says M. Daniel Boyer, a local leader of the CGO union, which represents the engineers.

Feasibility

The Government has not formally abandoned the plan. But in the Longwy valley, which has no other industry but steel, bad news has dropped this autumn as steadily as dead leaves. The coiling mill is to be run down faster than planned. The steel plate shop is to be closed earlier. The unions have been told that feasibility studies are under way on building an electric arc furnace at Longwy which would be fed by scrap metal.

This points to the abandonment of steel production based on local iron ore and a further cut in the workforce from a planned 4,200 by 1986 to only 1,500-1,700, the unions think. At its peak the steel industry in the whole of the Longwy valley employed some 30,000.

The unions have protested at these new moves. There was a large demonstration in September, production has been disrupted by stoppages, and letters have been written to President Mitterrand. But M. Michel Donati, another local CGT official says that it is becoming increasingly difficult to stir people to protest.

To the hesitation of labour at taking part in action that

could embarrass a left wing Government, he adds a number of other factors: the incentives being offered by the management for young steelworkers to look for jobs elsewhere; the ageing of the workforce and the absence of militancy among those approaching the new retirement age of 50; the additional loss of pay involved in strikes coming on top of the fall in purchasing power resulting from the Government's austerity programme; and the demoralisation of the workforce in the wake of successive closures.

The more time passes, the more the problems solve themselves, says M. Jean Pachtem, local director of the state-owned group Usinor which is now responsible for all steel-making at Longwy. "But it must not take too long."

By avoiding the direct confrontation that provoked the steel riots of 1979 and instead moving step by step, Government and management are defusing the risks of an explosion. But the situation is still "tense," says M. Pachtem, who fears that an announcement now that the coiling mill will be closed could result in an occupation of the site such as the CGT has organised elsewhere.

The dangers of moving too slowly are that the steel industry's mounting losses threaten to throttle new investment and deprive other sectors of much-needed funds. Usinor and the other state-owned group made combined losses last year of nearly FF8.9bn (\$756m) and expect to make losses again this year of FF8.9bn. The losses have thus wiped out the FF6.8bn of new capital endowments for the steel industry this year which already absorbed over a third of new cash injections for the nationalised industries. "At this rate," says M. Boyer, "we could reach 1986 still in loss and with a steel sector more seething than before."

Most of the losses incurred by the steel industry are in Lorraine. Because of the low grade of the region's iron ore, it costs FF1.150-150 a tonne more to produce steel in Lorraine than it does at France's modern coastal plants at Dunkirk and Fos-sur-Mer which use high grade imported ore.

For lower quality long products, local production costs are FF400-500 a tonne more than those of rival North Italian electric arc furnaces, which depend on scrap metal largely from France.

Hence Usinor's impatience to shift itself to electric arc production. As French steel output has fallen from 27m tonnes in 1974 to about 17m tonnes this year, Lorraine has become increasingly marginal to French needs. Usinor's plant at Dunkirk has a capacity of 8m tonnes, and the Fos-sur-Mer plant, which it owns jointly with Sacirol, a capacity of 4m tonnes.

Senator Jean-Marie Ramech, who is President of the regional council and frankly pessimistic about Lorraine's steel prospects, says: "With two major plant-closures (for French steel-making) at Dunkirk and Fos, there is no place for a third."

Both M. Raymond Levy, the head of Usinor, and M. Claude Delle, the chairman of Sacirol, would like to move faster towards rationalisation than the Government will allow. Both have said that the steel plant needs to be "re-cast." M. Levy, more forthright in his public statements, has warned of the dangers of "destructive competition" between the two groups and of the waste of overlapping investments. A new universal rolling mill that Sacirol want to build at a cost of FF2.2bn at Gaudrange in Lorraine to complement its modernised steel-making facilities there threatens for instance to undercut a similar plant of Usinor's at Valenciennes in the north.

Concentrate

M. Levy has made clear that he wants to concentrate Usinor's production on the profitable flat product plant at Dunkirk which is already absorbing the bulk of Usinor's planned investment. For Sacirol the problem is more complicated in that the bulk of its steel capacity is in Lorraine. But even those most pessimistic about the region's prospects as a raw steel producer believe it still has a strong future in metal fabrication.

The Government has postponed formal decisions over the future of the steel industry because of the potentially explosive social consequences.



Longwy steelworkers demonstrated in 1979... but now, for many, the heart has gone out of the fight.

Over the past four years the steel industry has already shed some 30,000 of its 130,000 workforce. Under the original 1982 plan, a further 10,000 jobs were due to go. Now it seems possible that between 10,000 and 20,000 workers on top of that could be laid off at some time, mostly from Lorraine.

President Mitterrand, in a much remembered visit to Lorraine, said in 1981 that there would be no further redundancies without new jobs being created in their place. But with the slowdown in the economy, the pace of job creation has been slow. The unions are still pressing hard for alternative employment or favourable redundancy terms. But the CGT, the most powerful union in Lorraine, is not making the steel industry a test case of its national campaign to fight lay-offs and closures. In part, that seems to be because the French steelworkers, as elsewhere in Europe, have less stomach for the fight.

Questions about long-term international business ventures?

Project planning? Market research and analysis?

Long-term/short-term financing? Bond issues?

Capital? Foreign exchange? Call LTCB, the

Long-Term Credit Bank of Japan. We're one

of the world's leading international banks.

We specialize in looking at business

long term, so we can help you plan for

long-term success. And our experienced

staff knows international finance through

and through. If you have questions, LTCB

can find the answers.



LTCB

International experience you can bank on.

The Long-Term Credit Bank of Japan, Ltd.

Head Office & International Banking Group: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan Tel. 211-5111 Telex J24308 London Branch: 3 Lombard Street, London EC3N 3AF, UK Tel. 673-9511 Telex 885305 New York Branch: 140 Broadway, New York, NY 10005, USA Tel. 212-797-1170 Telex 425722 Los Angeles Agency: 707 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90017, USA Tel. 213-488-1766 Telex 673556 Hong Kong Branch: 45th Floor, Far East Finance Centre, 16 Hong Kong Road, Hong Kong Tel. 5-285670 Telex 76295 Singapore Branch: Suite 2201/2204, OCBC Centre, Chinua Street, Singapore 0104, Singapore Tel. 919633 Telex 23813 Paris, Frankfurt, Toronto, Mexico City, Panama, São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Beijing, Bangkok, Kuala Lumpur, Jakarta, Sydney, Bahrain, LTCB International Ltd. (London), LTCB (Schweiz) AG (Zurich), LTCB Asia Ltd. (Hong Kong), Nippon European Bank S.A. (Brussels)

Brown Boveri know-how on ozone generators is good enough for the City of Los Angeles, at the new water treatment plant in San Fernando Valley.

Efficient, and safe

Ozone—"super oxygen"—is used in water treatment as a powerful and safe oxidizing agent that deals effectively with germs, viruses, odours, discoloration and other impurities.

BBC ozone generators were chosen for the new San Fernando Valley treatment plant after a severe evaluation of such factors as ozone concentration, output, efficiency, space requirements, maintenance needs, and price.

The plant's five ozone generators incorporate Brown Boveri electronic control equipment and produce an impressively high ozone concentration of 6%, or 88 g/m³. With pure oxygen as the feedstock, the combined output is 185 kg of ozone per hour.

With the help of Brown Boveri technology the new facility will treat more than 100,000 m³ of surface water per hour. To produce drinking water for the people of Los Angeles which is clear, clean and good.

As well as supplying highly specialized components and control systems to help meet such vital needs as drinking water and effluent treatment, Brown Boveri play a major role in providing the world with facilities for generating, distributing and utilizing electricity. Whether as main contractor, as head of a consortium, consortium member or supplier of equipment, Brown Boveri are there. Accepting the challenge of the different, the complex and the new—every day and everywhere. And with their worldwide resources committed to the attainment of technical excellence in joint enterprise with others, Brown Boveri know how.

Illustration: Spring basin in the Sipplinger Berg waterworks, Lake Constance. BBC ozone generators are used here in treating water from the lake to make it drinkable.



Competent · Dependable · Worldwide

BBC Brown, Boveri & Company, Limited, Baden/Switzerland
Brown Boveri International Group
P.O. Box 58, CH-5401 Baden/Switzerland

BBC
BROWN BOVERI

EUROPEAN NEWS

Polish company chiefs ruled illegal

BY CHRISTOPHER BOBINSKI IN WARSAW

Nearly 2,000 of Poland's managing directors have no legal right to be doing their jobs, a series of court rulings have established. The Ministry of Justice has now asked for a special session of the Supreme Court to try to resolve the situation.

The point at issue is that, since martial law was imposed in December, 1981, only a handful of managers in the country's more than 6,000 enterprises have been appointed through competitive selection procedures.

These are required under a law passed in September of that year.

Hundreds of others have simply been appointed to their jobs by the Government without competition. As a rule, local courts which keep company registers have turned a blind eye to the practice and have entered the new appointees.

Thus, 1,891 new managers were written into company records between January 1982 and the end of last May without going through the proper

procedures. Another 121 were written in, but with a note recording the breach in the law. Only in eight cases did a local court refuse to record such an appointment.

Appeals in one of these latter cases brought the matter to the attention of the Supreme Court last summer which decided that an appointment without a competition was indeed void and could not be recorded.

The Court, in effect, has challenged those in the central Communist party and

Government administration who are unhappy with more democratic procedures designed to bring fresh talent to the top of industry.

The Justice Ministry has now asked the Court to rule on the position of the directors appointed illegally, if only to know whether, for example, their signatures on company documents were still valid under the law. A special session of the Supreme Court was postponed last month.

E. German brown coal gas boosted

By Leslie Collett in Berlin

THE LARGEST chemical plant in East Germany is to expand production of synthetic gas from brown coal, even though the process will greatly increase pollution in one of the country's most densely populated areas.

Herr Erich Mueller, director of the Leuna chemicals group, near Halle, said a plant built in 1927 to produce synthetic gas, using the Winkler process, from brown low temperature coking coal will be reconstructed by 1985. It will consume 100,000 tonnes more coking coal than at present. This is expected to lead to annual sulphur dioxide emissions over the area in Saxony some 170,000 tonnes greater than in the Cologne chemical belt, West Germany's most highly polluted region.

Until the early 1970s, East Germany substituted oil and natural gas from the Soviet Union for domestic brown coal, a process reversed after the rise of Soviet energy prices and the limitation of supplies. The synthetic gas is used to produce methanol and is a basis for hydrogen synthesis and chemical fertilisers.

Herr Mueller said the increased use of low temperature coking coal is difficult and not necessarily popular. It is especially hard, he noted, for workers in the synthesis plant who are confronted with "coal filth" and who see nearby plants using comparatively clean oil.

He explained, however, that the positive side was that the synthesis gas workers have a future.

'Casino blitz' follows Italian probe into Mafia money

BY ALAN FRIEDMAN

MORE THAN 30 casino employees and bankers in northern Italy have been arrested in the past few days following an investigation into the "laundering" of Mafia money through casinos in Venice, San Remo, Saint Vincent and Camplone.

The inquiry, which has involved more than 2,000 police officials and magistrates, may shed light on the processing of millions of pounds of drug profits and other criminal earnings.

The "Casino blitz," which has dominated Italian headlines since last Friday, was made by special officers of the Guardia di Finanza (Fiscal Police), acting on orders from magistrates in Milan, Turin and Genoa.

By Friday morning, some 19 suspects had been taken into custody, including the president

of a holding company with investments in the casino business. As the weekend progressed two senior bankers had also been brought in for questioning about a number of cheques cleared for casino players and owners.

Details of the casino racket remain sketchy, but in broad outline here is how it is alleged to have worked:

A "bag man" with underworld funds would saunter into a fashionable casino near St Mark's Square in Venice, or at San Remo on the Italian Riviera, or in the Italian governed enclave of Campione inside Swiss territory.

The money would be exchanged for gambling chips and the carrier would then proceed to a roulette table or perhaps try his hand at chemin-de-fer. He would lose a small amount of money at the tables, throw

up his arms in frustration and decide to retire the chips for "clean" funds.

Unsuspecting tourists at the casinos would later be given the Mafia-deposited money and the operation would be complete. The complicity of banks has not been fully explained, but is believed to involve servicing casino accounts.

In addition to underworld profits from the drug trade, the proceeds from kidnappings are also thought to have found their way into gambling parlours. Usually, when a ransom is paid the police note the serial numbers on the currency. Exchanging these funds at casinos provides a useful way of laundering them.

The Italian authorities are expected to make a few more arrests before the exercise is concluded and the eventual number may be around 30.

Concern at Lisbon banks hint

BY DIANA SMITH IN LISBON

CONTROVERSY HAS arisen in Lisbon over reports that minimum capital of Esc 2bn (£10.6m) will be required to open a foreign branch in Portugal when the banking sector becomes accessible to private capital next year. The banks were nationalised in the 1975 revolution.

The Government has not yet made a firm decision on the capital requirement for new foreign or domestic banks or insurance companies proposing

to operate in Portugal. But Sr Antonio de Almeida, the Treasury Secretary, has leaked a set of figures in a conversation with the national news agency.

According to Sr Almeida Esc 2bn would be needed for a branch of a foreign bank and Esc 3bn for a locally-incorporated bank. An insurance company would need Esc 350m.

The leak has caused concern in the Government because the banking rules are still being discussed in cabinet. In order

to avoid speculation that could raise or dash bankers' expectations, officials have been particularly reticent about any possible capital figures.

It was stressed in Lisbon yesterday that no decision has yet been taken, nor will it for some time.

The possibility of a Esc 2bn requirement for foreign banks interested in a branch in Portugal has raised eyebrows in Lisbon.

COMMERZBANK

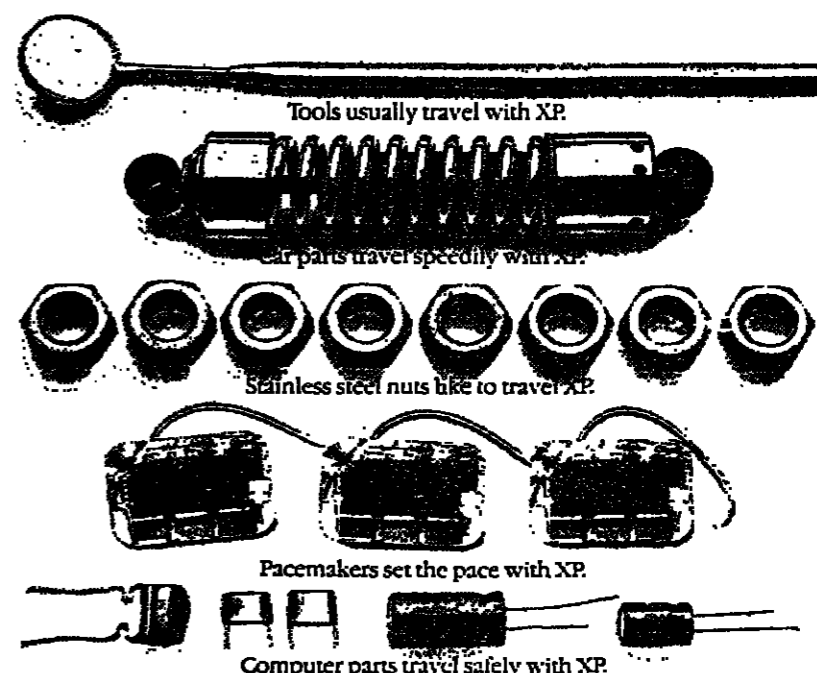
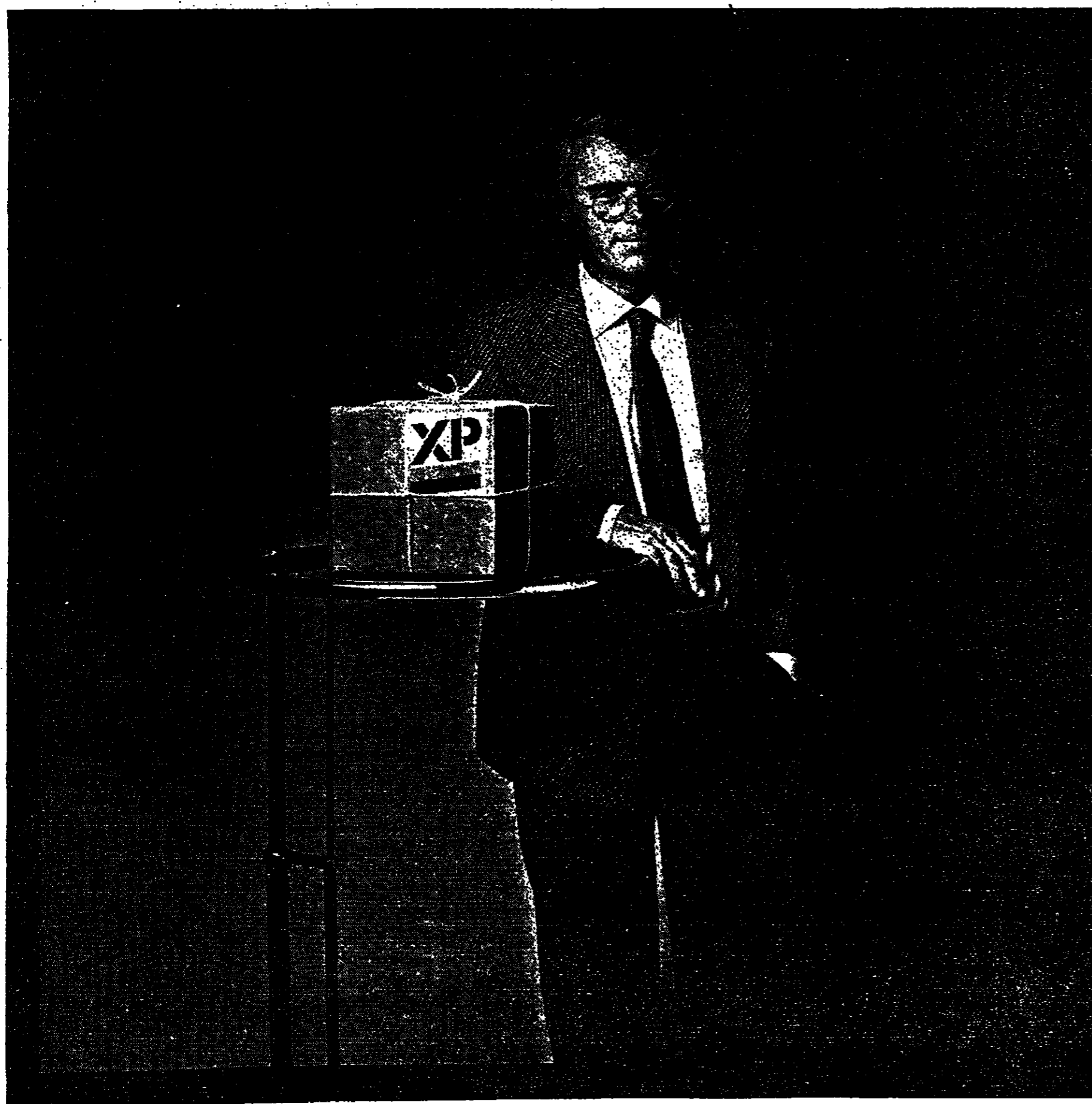
»To put one's thoughts into action is the most difficult thing in the world.«

-Johann Wolfgang von Goethe-

The ability to make good ideas a practical reality has helped establish Commerzbank as a symbol of quality in all major areas of commercial banking. All over the world.

For immediate access to global capabilities built up over a century of international activity, ask a Commerzbanker.

Head Office: P.O. Box 2534, D-6000 Frankfurt/Main. 860 branches throughout West Germany, including West Berlin. Branches and Subsidiaries: Amsterdam, Antwerp, Atlanta, Barcelona, Brussels, Chicago, Hong Kong, London, Luxembourg, Madrid, New York, Paris, Rotterdam, Singapore, Tokyo. Representative Offices: Beijing, Buenos Aires, Cairo, Caracas, Copenhagen, Jakarta, Johannesburg, Lima, Madrid, Manama (Bahrain), Mexico City, Moscow, Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, Sydney, Tehran, Tokyo, Toronto, Windhoek.



"IF I WAS A PARCEL I'D TRAVEL WITH XP TOO?"

If it was up to you, you'd probably prefer to go XP. For then, at least, you could be sure you'd always arrive at your destination on time.

XP specialise in the rapid delivery of small parcels (up to 30 kg.) and documents to most parts of Europe, including a fast and reliable customs service.

We guarantee that a parcel collected late in the afternoon will be delivered the next working day in any of over 1,500 towns in the XP delivery network.

XP back up this guarantee through their own offices and their own fleet of cars and aeroplanes in 14 European countries.

XP is completely reliable and often costs less than air freight. If you would like more information, just call Free-phone 3738, or complete and post the coupon.

XP THE SYSTEM FOR PARCELS



Please send me the travel guide for small parcels and documents.

Name: _____

Attention of: _____

Address: _____

Postal code: _____

City: _____

Tel. No.: _____

To: XP Express Parcel Systems Ltd, Building 95, Percival Way, Luton Airport, Luton Beds. LU2 9PA.

London 01-407 2525, Luton 0582 429211, Birmingham 021-771 4272, Manchester 061-832 3353, Gloucester 0452 856556, Heathrow 01-570 2121.

EUROPEAN NEWS

Dutch pay talks resume

By Walter Ellis in Amsterdam

TALKS between the Dutch Government and trades union leaders are due to reopen today to discuss the Cabinet plan to reduce the salary of 700,000 public sector workers by 3 per cent from January 1.

Formal negotiations broke off two weeks ago amid mutual recriminations. The restart was arranged over the weekend after a court ruling that both sides had a duty to the public to ensure the smooth running of public services.

Strikes and go-slows have caused widespread disruption since the breakdown, and the Periodical Publishers' Association asked for a ruling that something be done in order to halt the postal strike that is damaging magazine circulations.

Mr Wim Kok, leader of the FNV, the larger and more hard-line of the two Dutch trade union federations, has said that he is ready to compromise on the cuts question.

The FNV will accept cuts averaging 1.5 per cent in gross salaries next year provided they are shared throughout the public and private sectors. The government line is that 1984 wages have already been decided.

DISQUIET AMONG MOSCOW'S ALLIES

Unrest over missile stationing

By DAVID BUCHAN IN LONDON AND ANDRIANA IERODIACONOU IN ATHENS

MOSCOW'S allies are showing some unrest at the imminent deployment of Soviet missiles in parts of Eastern Europe, in response to the arrival of U.S. missiles in Western Europe. The most important sign of disquiet is coming from Czechoslovakia and the most recent sign from Bulgaria.

Mr Andreas Papanastasiou, the Greek Prime Minister, extracted an assurance from President Todor Zhivkov at their meeting in Sofia last week that Bulgaria would not accept any Soviet missiles, in deference to the Greek proposal for a Balkan nuclear-free zone, Greek officials said yesterday.

The Bulgarian no-deployment

pledge is of considerable political value to Mr Papanastasiou in dealing with the hard-line ideologues in his own Socialist Party and the pro-Moscow Communist opposition. The Soviet Union has never placed, and is not likely to place nuclear weapons in Bulgaria, which is far from the main European front.

But the Zhivkov statement is a sign of widening East European sensitivity to the missile issue, fostered to some extent by the forthright position of maverick Romania, which has denounced deployment by both sides.

Scinteia, the Romanian party newspaper, yesterday warned both

superpowers to weigh carefully the dangers of deploying new missiles.

Last week President Ceausescu of Romania wrote to West Germany's Chancellor Helmut Kohl urging that the Soviet Union drop its demand that British and French missiles be included in the Geneva arms negotiations and that the West postpone deployment of cruise and Pershing missiles. Herr Kohl called the Ceausescu letter "significant".

There are stirrings of popular anxiety in Czechoslovakia after last month's announcement that new Soviet missiles would be placed there and in East Germany. Rude Pravo, the Prague party newspaper,

conceded in a long article last week that readers had written in to express their doubts as to whether the Soviet deployment was necessary, whether it should have been announced in advance of the arrival of cruise and Pershing in the West, and whether it would make Czechoslovakia any safer.

The Rude Pravo commentary said Czechoslovakia had been a prime western target for the past 35 years and that Soviet missiles would correct a growing imbalance. The newspaper, but not its readers, seemed aware that short-range Soviet "Frog" missiles had been in Czechoslovakia with Soviet troops for some years.

Norway faces close vote on cruise

By FAY GJESTER IN OSLO

NORWAY'S centre-right coalition faces a close parliamentary vote next week on its policy of support for immediate deployment of U.S. cruise and Pershing missiles in Western Europe, barring a last-minute agreement in Geneva.

Two of the coalition's three partners - the Centre and Christian Democrat parties - have in their ranks sceptical MPs who may well

vote against the Government when the Storting (parliament) debates the issue next Monday. Conservative MPs - whose party is the dominant partner in the coalition - will give it full backing, as will the four MPs of the far right Progress Party.

Labour, the largest opposition party, is completely opposed to deployment - although the former Labour Government voted for the

original Nato twin-track decision in 1979. Labour's leaders say the situation has changed since then.

Meanwhile, recent public opinion polls have shown 80 per cent of Norwegians opposed to deployment.

Mr Hans Olav Tungevik, a prominent Christian Democrat MP, yesterday warned of the long-term threat to Nato's solidarity "if the

parliaments of country after country in the West are now going to be split down the middle on this important issue."

Mr Tungevik said Norway's Government should put pressure on its Nato allies and the U.S. negotiators in Geneva to find out just what Mr Yuri Andropov, Soviet party chairman, meant by his missile reduction offer last month.

W. German boost from exports

By John Davies in Frankfurt

THE WEST German economy is beginning to receive a boost from a revival in exports, according to Deutsche Bank, the country's largest bank.

At the same time the bank voiced a plea for a more stable U.S. dollar. It said the dollar had probably become over-valued, but it hoped there would not be an exaggerated swing in the opposite direction.

Deutsche Bank lent its weight to the view that a recovery in exports could help to sustain economic growth in West Germany next year. But it also stressed that the strength of economic growth would depend on investment, which in turn would be influenced by monetary and budget policies as well as the level of wage settlements.

The five leading economic research institutes recently said they expected exports to grow about 6 per cent in nominal terms next year.

FINANCIAL TIMES, USPS No. 10669, published daily except Sundays and holidays. U.S. subscription: \$25.00 per annum. Second class postage paid at New York, NY and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: send address changes to: FINANCIAL TIMES, 25 Rockefeller Plaza, NY, NY 10020.

The World's
Most Distinguished
Clientele



THE MADISON
Washington's Correct Address

THE MADISON HOTELS
15th & M Streets, Northwest
Washington D.C. 20005
(202) 662-1600
Telex: 64245

Marshall S. Coyne, Proprietor

Brochures available in Arabic, English, French,
German, Japanese and Spanish upon request

The Dole Madison Hotel... Reservations Upon Special Request

This is just a part of the Iveco range.
There's more at your nearest dealer's.



Here are just some of the 600 models and 2000 variants that Iveco can offer you. Whatever your particular needs, our dealers have the right vehicle for you: trucks for long-range international haulage and for shorter trips, vans for door-to-door deliveries, minibuses for use in the city and for holidays, trucks for construction site

work, and off-road vehicles. A really complete range, with an infinite number of versions to choose from. With the load capacity, engine specification, wheelbase length, and the heights that you want. A range combining the research and technology of four big European marques.

IVECO
A world of transport.

BASE LENDING RATES

A.B.N. Bank	9.5%	Hill Samuel	10.5%
Allied Irish Bank	9.5%	C. Hoare & Co.	10.5%
Amro Bank	9.5%	Hongkong & Shanghai	10.5%
Henry Ansbacher	9.5%	Kingsnorth Trust Ltd.	10.5%
Arbuthnot Leitham	9.5%	Knowles & Co. Ltd.	10.5%
Armo Trust Ltd.	9.5%	Lloyds Bank	10.5%
Associates Cap. Corp.	10.5%	Maitland Limited	10.5%
Banco de Bilbao	9.5%	Edward Manson & Co.	10.5%
Bank Hapoalim BM	9.5%	Megraw and Sons Ltd.	10.5%
BCI	9.5%	Midland Bank	10.5%
Bank of Ireland	9.5%	Morgan Grenfell	10.5%
Bank Leumi (UK) plc	9.5%	National Bk. of Kuwait	10.5%
Bank of Cyprus	9.5%	National Girobank	10.5%
Bank of Scotland	10.5%	National Westminster	10.5%
Banque Belge Ltd.	9.5%	Norwich City Bank	10.5%
Banque du Maroc	9.5%	R. Raphael & Sons	10.5%
Barclays Bank	9.5%	P. S. Refson & Co.	10.5%
Beneficial Trust Ltd.	10.5%	Roxburgh & Guarantees	10.5%
Bremar Holdings Ltd.	9.5%	Royal Trust Co. Canada	10.5%
Brit. Bank of Mid. East	9.5%	Standard Chartered	10.5%
Brown Shipley	9.5%	Trade Dev. Bank	10.5%
CL Bank Nederland	9.5%	TCC	10.5%
Canada Perm. Trust	10.5%	Trustee Savings Bank	10.5%
Castle Court Trust Ltd.	10.5%	United Bank of Kuwait	10.5%
Cayzer Ltd.	9.5%	United Mizrahi Bank	10.5%
Cedar Holdings	9.5%	Wells Fargo Int'l. Ltd.	10.5%
Charterhouse Japhet	10.5%	Westpac Banking Corp.	10.5%
Choulatons	10.5%	Whiteaway Laidlaw	10.5%
Citibank Savings	10.5%	Williams & Glyn's	10.5%
Clydebank Bank	9.5%	Wittrust Sec. Ltd.	10.5%
C. E. Coates	9.5%	Yorkshire Bank	10.5%
Comm. Bk. of N. East	9.5%		
Consolidated Credits	9.5%		
Co-operative Bank	9.5%		
The Cyprus Popular Bk.	9.5%		
Dunbar & Co. Ltd.	9.5%		
Duncan Lawrie	9.5%		
E. T. Trust	10.5%		
Exeter Trust Ltd.	10.5%		
First Nat. Em. Corp.	11.5%		
First Nat. Sec. Ltd.	10.5%		
Robert Fraser	10.5%		
Grindlays Bank	9.5%		
Guinness Mahon	9.5%		
Hambros Bank	9.5%		
Heritable & Gen. Trust	9.5%		

The Board of Management of Akzo N.V. announces that on November 14th, 1983 the results for the third quarter of 1983 were published.

Copies of this quarterly report may be obtained from the London Paying Agents:
Barclays Bank PLC
Securities Services Department
54, Lombard Street
London EC3P 3AH
and
Midland Bank PLC
International Division
Securities Services Department
110-114 Cannon Street
London EC4N 6AA.



Amsterdam, November 15th, 1983.

AMERICAN MOTORS CORPORATION

9% US-Dollar Bonds due 1989

Notice is hereby given to holders of the above Bonds that the redemption instalment of \$2,000,000 due on January 15, 1984 has been entirely effected in the market.

There will be no drawing by lot.

Southfield, Michigan
November 1983

AMERICAN MOTORS CORPORATION



WE THE
LIMBLESS
LOOK TO YOU
FOR HELP

We come from both world
wars. We come from Korea,
Korea, Malaysia, Aden, Cyprus,
Uganda and from the Falklands.
Now, disabled, we must
look to you for help. Please
help by helping our Association.
BLESSMA looks after the
limbless from all the
Services. It helps to overcome
the shock of losing arms or
legs or an eye. And, for the
severely handicapped, it
provides Residential Homes
where they can live in peace
and dignity.
Help the disabled by
helping BLESSMA. We promise
you that not one penny of
your donation will be wasted.

Donations and information:
The Chairman, BLESSMA,
Midland Bank Ltd., Department FT,
60 West Smithfield, London EC3A 8BX.

Give to those who gave - please
BLESSMA
BRITISH LIMBLESS
EX-SERVICE MEN'S ASSOCIATION



AMERICAN NEWS

Major Texas and Oklahoma banks face loans review

BY WILLIAM HALL IN NEW YORK

U.S. BANK regulators have launched a special examination of the quality of the energy loan portfolios of major banks in Texas and Oklahoma. The move follows mounting concern about the impact of the problems in the domestic oil industry on U.S. banks.

The examination is the first of its kind in the U.S., coming in the wake of criticism of the way bank regulators handled the collapse of Penn Square bank in July last year. The small Oklahoma bank lost \$160m (107m) on energy lending and several big banks including Citicorp, Citicredit, Continental Illinois and Seafirst, which had bought loans from Penn Square, also reported substantial losses on their energy loan portfolios.

The collapse of Penn Square is regarded as the main reason why Bank of America had to step in and rescue Seafirst, the leading Seattle bank, earlier this year. So far, U.S. banks have made special loan loss provisions of more than \$1.5bn on energy lending since the problems first began to surface with the collapse of Penn Square last year.

Following the closure of Penn Square, the U.S. Inspector General conducted an independent review of the policies and procedures of the Office of the U.S. Comptroller of the Currency which had primary regulatory responsibility for the small bank.

The Inspector General found the Comptroller's procedures "generally adequate," but noted that assessment of wider effects of a particular bank's practices could be improved.

The Comptroller's office, which supervises the country's nationally-chartered banks, has set up a new supervisory analysis division that will obtain and analyse information to identify potential or actual problems in the energy sector. The division will also monitor the impact of a particular bank's group of banks and the national banking system as a whole.

The current review of the ailing U.S. energy industry is the first of these specific reviews.

A dozen bank examiners are visiting ten major energy banks in Texas and Oklahoma and assessing the adequacy of loan loss reserves and systems of internal loan review.

Unwinnable war in El Salvador

BY ROBERT GRAHAM LATIN AMERICAN EDITOR, RECENTLY IN SAN SALVADOR

A SALVADOREAN Army checkpoint slows traffic near a railway cutting on the Pan-American highway, 20 minutes out of the capital, San Salvador. As my papers are checked, I explain that I am heading for Tenancingo, a small town about 10 miles off the highway, recently occupied by the guerrillas and now reportedly in Government hands. "All quiet up there: no guerrillas," volunteers a soldier. Beneath his battle fatigues he is wearing a T-shirt emblazoned with the slogan "Communism stops here."

Less than two miles away from the checkpoint along a dirt road hardened by the onset of the dry season, four armed guerrillas step casually from a banana chump. They stop the car and ask for a lift, only mildly curious about journalistic credentials. They are more interested in sleep after patrolling all night.

Tenancingo is abandoned and war-torn—the civilian population fled when Government forces resorted to heavy bombing to take it back. But beside the church, the guerrillas have set up their headquarters. "I thought you had been forced out," I said to the guerrilla leader, surprised after the news of its much-trumpeted recapture. "Well, we are here," he said, grinning like a naughty schoolboy. "They can take it any time they want, but they cannot hold it."

The three-year-old civil war in El Salvador is not going well

for the right-wing, U.S.-backed Government of acting President Alvaro Mangana. A large slice of the countryside has fallen under direct control of the guerrilla forces, whose five main organisations are grouped under the FMLN liberation movement. Other areas like Tenancingo have become an uneasy no-man's land, the civilian population forced into temporary or semi-permanent refugee status.

The 12,000-strong El Salvador armed forces are spread too thinly and lack the fire-power to hold positions against constant guerrilla probing in the north-eastern and southern part of the country. Guerrilla strength is up to 7,000 men and women. By the normal numerical standards used when conventional forces are fighting guerrillas, the army has only about one-third the number necessary to contain an insurgency.

There are other handicaps apart from mere numbers. The El Salvador army is poorly equipped, despite its American backing. Congressional restraints on U.S. military credits imposed a limit of \$136m on 1983 fiscal year assistance (already two-thirds of all U.S. military assistance to Central America), while for 1984 it is unlikely that the \$84m proposed will be accepted. If this assistance was efficiently used, then the armed forces might be better off, but much is rendered useless through poor maintenance, attrition in battle and seizures by the guerrillas.

Army morale is low. A few dedicated officers are willing to operate in the field with a force of teenage volunteers and conscripts, but most are more concerned about politicking in the capital.

Training is poor and the Reagan Administration has been only partially successful in raising the standard. There is a Congressional limit of 55 U.S. military advisers operating inside El Salvador. To get round this, a scheme was set up earlier this year to train batches of the Salvadorean army in neighbouring Honduras.

The first 1,000 such trained men are now back in the country, but their presence has had only a limited impact. They lack, for instance, adequate helicopter support and transport in what is still a "foot soldiers' war" where success is gained by hunting and clashing with the guerrillas in hilly wooded terrain.

Medical support is notably absent, resulting in a high loss of life. More than one in every three wounded dies (in Vietnam the U.S. saved nine in ten wounded).

The FMLN, which groups a range of ideologies from revolutionary Marxism to social democracy, lacks the strength to take and hold large towns, and is now ringed on the Honduran border by the Honduran army and U.S. units. The traditional arms route across

the Gulf of Fonseca from Nicaragua has been closed because of a U.S. and Honduran blockade, and although the guerrillas never did obtain much material in this way, relying more on captured equipment, this has reduced their capacity.

At present the guerrillas can sustain the conflict but not conclusively win it. Equally, for the El Salvador Government and its U.S. allies, there can be nothing more than a holding operation at the military level.

But the Government is not only doing poorly on the military level, it is also significantly failing to win hearts and minds. The civilian population may have reservations about supporting the guerrillas, but the Government has provided little incentive for allegiance.

Almost 40,000 persons have so far died in this brutal conflict, mainly innocent civilians, many of whom have been killed off the battlefield in callous murders. Neither side is blameless, but the army and its death squads have been responsible for the majority.

The Government might be described as its own worst enemy if it were not perhaps misleading to talk of a Government. President Mangana is only an acting president and though elected, he is powerless to control the army or the death squads. The elected assembly is in the hands of the powerful



Wounded Salvadoran army soldier lies from a combat zone north-east of the capital after guerrillas take control.

right-wing officer, Major Roberto d'Aubuisson, who, along with his allies in the armed forces, has blocked any meaningful negotiations with the guerrillas.

A Government peace commission, backed by the U.S., has made desultory efforts since September to negotiate, but these now seem to be a dead letter. The FMLN, with its political arm, the Democratic Front (FDR), has insisted on participating in elections next spring, but the peace commission has been unable to offer it any guarantee of physical safety. Meanwhile, Major d'Aubuisson is succeeding in undermining attempts in the assembly to legislate on land reform, a fundamental issue in this overpopulated country where land ownership remains in the hands of a small oligarchy. In this atmosphere the Salvadorean military are once again clamping at the bit, with open talk of another coup, which could make the conflict more intractable.

Poor get poorer in Brazil as IMF discusses terms

BY ANDREW WHITLEY IN RIO DE JANEIRO

THE LEVEL of absolute poverty in Brazil has increased, is increasing, and will increase further, according to figures just published by the Government Statistics Institution, the IBGE.

That assertion will surprise no one who has watched this country of 125m people struggle through the past three years of over-deepening recession. As a well-known Brazilian writer puts it, this is "Belindia," where part of the population enjoys the living standards of Belgium while the rest suffer on a par with India.

The figures demonstrate unequivocally that the belt-tightening instituted in 1981 has had a dramatic effect on the earnings of all classes. But it is those who were already near the bottom who are suffering most. In the 12 months up to October 1982, the number of Brazilians earning less than half the official minimum wage of \$73 a month increased by a third to over 10m.

In late 1982, when the census was taken, 41 per cent of the economically active population earned less than the minimum wage, defined as the minimum necessary to support a family of four. The percentage in this category had leapt up from 32 per cent a year earlier. Nor has the middle class escaped. Over the same 12 months, their numbers fell by an estimated 3.5m. The proportion in the top category, earning over \$13,000 a year, slumped by 42 per cent.

Since then the only reliable guide to what has been happening to living standards — for

Brazilian Government officials including Sr. Antonio Delam Netto, the Planning Minister, were meeting with M. Jacques de Larosiere, IMF managing director, and Fund officials in Washington yesterday in a bid to finalise terms of the IMF's adjustment programme for the heavily indebted country.

The Fund is due to make a final decision on whether to resume the disbursement of its \$35.4bn loan package for Brazil on Friday. While it has been widely predicted that M. de Larosiere will recommend disbursements be resumed, it is understood that several elements in the agreement remain to be settled. The IMF, for example, is thought to be pressing for a tightening of some of its conditions.

Also to be settled are the terms under which the IMF will waive some of its performance targets.

those fortunate enough to be still in work — is the buying power of the minimum wage, when translated into U.S. dollars. This forms the basis for all salary adjustments up to the \$13,000-a-year ceiling.

By the end of 1983, the dollar value of the minimum wage will have fallen by 40 per cent compared with its mid-1982 peak. Worse, for most of this year the six-monthly increases in the poverty threshold — as defined by the Government — have lagged well behind the rate of inflation.

U.S. army engineers to build Costa Rica roads

OUR LATIN AMERICA EDITOR

THE REAGAN Administration is to send up to 1,000 men from the U.S. Corps of Engineers to build roads and infrastructure on the troubled Costa Rican border with Nicaragua. The decision was taken in late September but over the weekend the under-secretary of defence, Mr. Fred Ikle, revealed the extent of this new commitment to Costa Rica, which has no standing army.

The Costa Rican Government was approached by the U.S. Administration in July to permit U.S. army engineers to improve communications in the mountains and forest-covered border with Nicaragua. This was seen as a further move to tighten the U.S.-imposed siege on Nicaragua, aiding the counter-revolutionary forces fighting the Sandinista government from Costa Rica.

The Costa Rican Government at first refused. However, U.S. pressure was such that it agreed

on condition that the bulk of the military presence carrying out this work be non-American. Colombia and Panama then stepped in with offers of personnel.

The size of the U.S. military commitment is bigger than expected, although army personnel will work with Colombian and Panamanian troops. The presence draws Costa Rica further into the Central American conflict, where the U.S. and its allies are seeking to end the four-year-old Sandinista regime in Nicaragua.

Over the weekend in San Jose, there were signs that the increasing Costa Rican involvement in the conflict was causing strains within the Government. Sr. Fernando Volio said he would step down from his post. This followed the vote by the Costa Rican ambassador to the UN, going against his instructions and censuring the U.S. for its invasion of Grenada.

Victory for left in Peru's municipal elections

BY DOREEN GILLESPIE IN LIMA

PRESIDENT Fernando Belaunde's Popular Action (Accion Popular) party was defeated in nationwide municipal elections held in Peru on Sunday in the midst of the country's worst-ever economic crisis.

The victors were the left-of-centre Apra party which swept the board in the majority of districts outside Lima and the United Left coalition of seven socialist and communist parties — Izquierda Unida. The United Left's leader, Sr. Alfonso Barrantes, was elected to the key political post of Mayor of Lima, with more than one-third of the votes according to preliminary results.

Sr. Barrantes, a 55-year-old labour lawyer from Cajamarca in the northern Sierra describes himself as a Marxist independent. Western diplomats said he would be the first freely-elected Marxist mayor of a South American capital.

During his campaign he promised breakfasts for undernourished children, and running water and improved hygiene in shantytowns. He also offered to improve Lima's chaotic transport system and garbage collection.

Sr. Barrantes has rejected the violence of the Maoist Shining Path terrorist guerrillas who call themselves Peru's authentic communist party.

PITNEY BOWES INTRODUCES A STARTLING INNOVATION IN THE MAILROOM.

Pitney Bowes is no stranger to innovation.

After all, we invented the world's first postage meter.

Now we've developed a totally integrated electronic mail processing system that will transform the way your company handles its mail.

At its heart is the RMRS postage meter. With Remote Meter Re-Setting a simple telephone call to our Data Centre is all it takes to re-set your postage meter in seconds.

Which means your mail always goes out on time. And always looks thoroughly professional.

Another key component in the system is the Pitney Bowes electronic meter.

Not only does it operate on existing Pitney Bowes meter bases and handle postage selection up to one hundred pounds, it's also the first of its kind to be approved for the UK.

Link it to our electronic 'decision' scales and they will set the correct postage in the meter automatically.

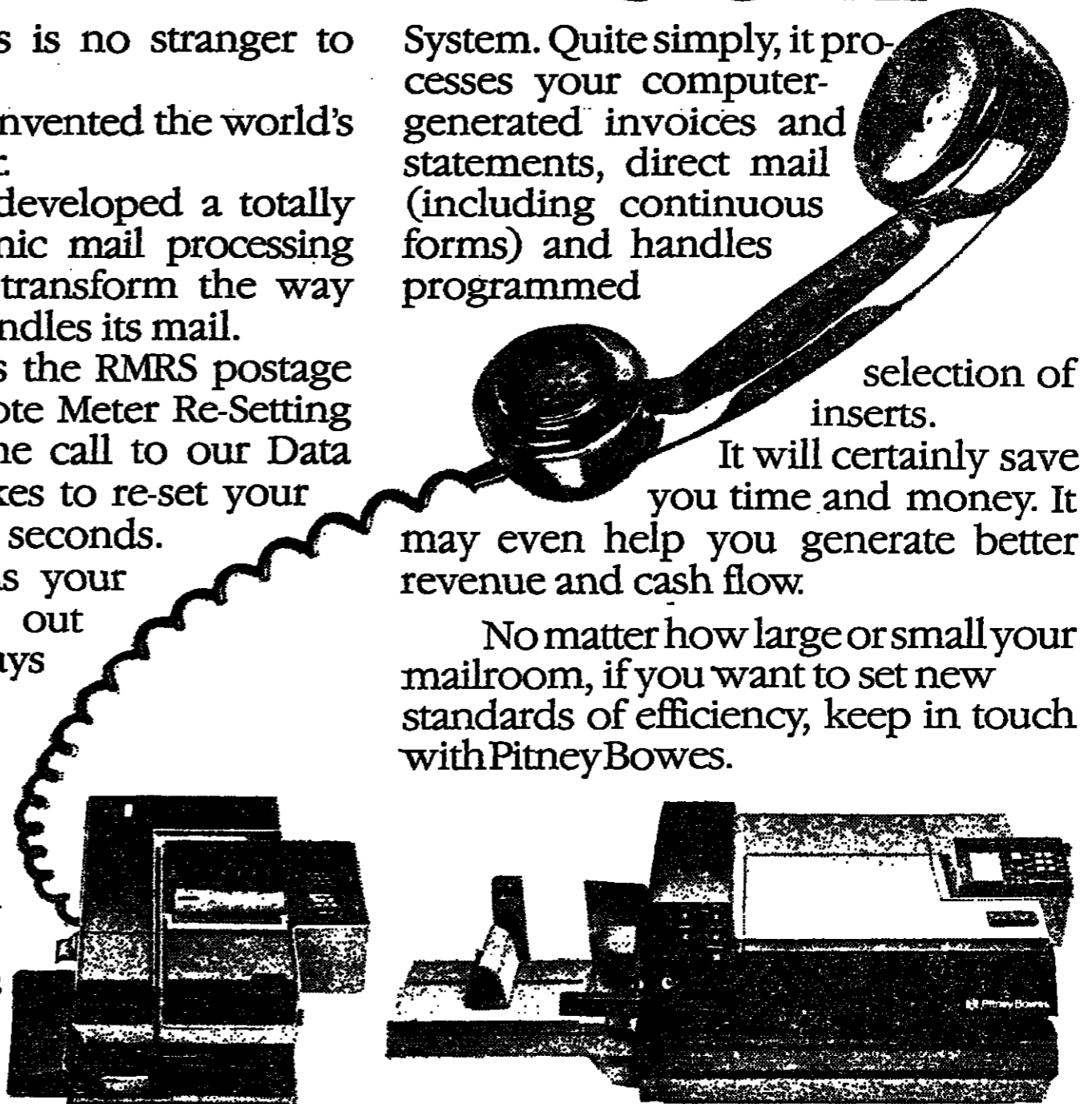
If your company is using a computer, you'll also appreciate the advantages of our Intelligent Inserting

System. Quite simply, it processes your computer-generated invoices and statements, direct mail (including continuous forms) and handles programmed

selection of inserts.

It will certainly save you time and money. It may even help you generate better revenue and cash flow.

No matter how large or small your mailroom, if you want to set new standards of efficiency, keep in touch with Pitney Bowes.



To: Pitney Bowes plc Harlow Essex CM19 5BD.
Tel: 0279 26731. Please tell me about the electronic mail processing system.

Name _____
Position _____
Company _____
Address _____

Tel: _____

FT15/11K

Pitney Bowes
World leader in mailing systems

TECHNOLOGY

HOW TO TRAIN THE WORKSTATION TO TAKE THE STRAIN

'It does your work for you'

XIONICS, a small UK electronic office specialist, has developed a novel solution to one of the principal barriers obstructing the widespread use of personal computers in business—the fact that they are often inconvenient, if not downright tedious to use.

Personal computers, of course, are intended to automate office work; what Xionics—whose clients include BP Oil, Calor Gas, Midland Bank and the Cabinet Office—has done is to automate the use of the computer.

Mike Bevan, Xionics' managing director, describes it as: "training the workstation to carry out routine work," and it works on the principle of the keyboard memory—a single key can be programmed to carry out a series of operations. In word processing, for example, standard paragraphs can be recalled for inclusion in a new document by keying in one or two letter codes.

The Xionics development, Keystroke Procedural Language (KPL), takes this idea and develops it. Whole com-

Professional Personal Computing

puter operations—for example, calling a database, extracting information, processing the information and printing the results in a regular format—can be activated by pressing a single key.

According to Xionics: "The ability to be conscious of dates and times is built in. This relates to how things are in real life. A particular job has to be done because it is Friday afternoon, or the 30th of the month, or because some report is two weeks overdue or a project is late."

"KPL procedures can examine and compare dates and times. They can vary their actions, or cause other procedures to be carried out depending on what they find."

So KPL generates an auto-

matic sequence of operations with intelligence built in. KPL is a programming language comprising 20 or so high level commands and it has to be learned but Mike Bevan insists that the executive has to carry out the programming.

ICI's Mond Division in Runcorn has been using Xionics' system as part of their experiments in office automation and report favourably on KPL. Mr Winston Sherman, Mond's office technology manager, says the system is valuable and should save users a considerable amount of time.

One of his assistants, with responsibilities for supporting the Mond executives taking part in the project, was equally positive: "It is amazing what you can do with it. It really does

your work for you. One of my responsibilities is to update a number of user files daily and KPL carries out these routine data processing tasks for me."

Xionics has a long list of office utilities which it can provide for its users, but Mike Bevan believes that KPL is the single most important user facility ever developed by Xionics.

A level of flexibility can be built into the system either during the initial programming stage or after the program has gone live. If, for example, a manager decided he or she wanted only six of the 12 reports that the work station had been "trained" to collate and print, a simple menu could be built in to allow selection.

Xionics is providing KPL free to users of its bigger workstations (those with 256K of memory) and has no plans to make it available to users of other systems. "The user commands are very simple and powerful," Mike Bevan argues, "but the programming reaches right down into the machine code making it very complicated to transfer to other systems."

More on 01-636 0105.

Networking

Wordplex links typewriters

INTRODUCED BY Wordplex is Multilink, a networking facility that allows up to 15 electronic typewriters to be connected to an 80-400M terminal with Winchester disc and facilities for editing and filing the material typed.

Each typewriter and the terminal are connected to their own "node" box and the boxes are linked by twisted pair cable to form the ring. The typists can create file names under which their material is stored on the main terminal and they can retrieve it at any time by a simple command. Printing can be centralised or at the typewriters.

Certain models in the Olympia, Facit and Adler typewriter ranges can currently use the system; others are being examined. Price of the controller and network is about £11,000. More on 0734 555245.

Peripherals

Keyboard design

AEG TELEFUNKEN has launched a custom design foil keyboard service in the UK.

The units are manufactured by Telefunken Electronic GmbH and use diaphragm, membrane or flat foil techniques to provide high reliability and "absolute user safety."

The switching arrangements can be made to suit customers' keyboarding requirements. More on Slough 872101.

MINI REFINERY OF THE FUTURE

French look to Venezuelan oil

BY PAUL BETTS, RECENTLY IN LYON

THE FRENCH oil industry is showing renewed interest in technical collaboration with Venezuela to develop the South American country's vast reserves of heavy crude oils in and around the Orinoco river basin. This follows the completion of a FFR 250m facility near Lyon which integrates and tests a wide range of systems to process heavy oils and residuals.

The facility, which looks like a mini-refinery of the future able to process up to 20,000 tons of heavy crudes and residuals a year, was opened last Thursday by M Jean Auroux, the French Secretary of State for Energy.

The project—called ASVAHL (association pour la valorisation des huiles lourdes) and grouping together Elf Aquitaine and Total, the two large French oil companies, with the French petroleum institute IFP—is a showcase of French oil processing and refining technologies. As such, it is designed not only to help provide new solutions for the domestic refining industry but also to promote abroad, especially in countries like Venezuela and Canada rich in heavy oils, French technologies and services.

Indeed, the project when it was launched four years ago was already closely connected

with a technical accord between France and Venezuela in the heavy oil field. Elf was also contemplating at the time a supply agreement with Venezuela involving between 1m and 2m tons of heavy crude a year. But the collapse of oil prices put these deals in a state of suspended animation. However, despite the continuing softness of oil prices making development of very heavy crudes economically unviable, the start-up of ASVAHL has prompted the French industry to revive its contacts with the Venezuelans.

M Jacques Bosquet, deputy project manager at ASVAHL, disclosed he had been on a French mission to Venezuela last month. He said the purpose of the visit was to renew contacts between the two countries and added that Venezuela may be supplying a small quantity of its Bossett oil (one of the heaviest crudes with a density of 10.5 API) for testing and processing at ASVAHL.

The contacts with Venezuela came at a time when West Germany is also testing new technologies for heavy crudes and has already entered into a supply agreement with Venezuela. Some of the international oil companies are also pressing ahead with their new techniques. Shell especially has been active in heavy crudes and has set up a demonstration plant in Venezuela.

French oil industry officials at the ASVAHL opening said it was important for France to stay at the forefront of technological developments in heavy crudes and residuals processing as one of the traditional strengths of the industry has

been in the engineering, technical and service side rather than in the exploration part of the business.

The ASVAHL project has two basic technical aims. The first is to develop and test techniques to enable very heavy crudes to be transported from often difficult and remote areas and to enhance their quality. Treatment of these crudes is generally done on the site of extraction. "The techniques must remain as simple as possible and the treatment facility must be as compact as possible," explained M Bosquet.

The second aim is the deep conversion of residuals. Officials at ASVAHL made no secret that in the short term at least while energy markets remain soft there will be no scope for residual technologies than for the on-site treatment of very heavy crudes. ASVAHL itself is supplied by residuals from the large neighbouring refinery of Feyzin. But the costs of building a facility on an industrial scale to treat residuals remains nonetheless staggering. "About \$1bn for a one million ton a year plant," says M Bosquet. "But if you don't invest in developing the technologies now, you won't be ready when they will become needed," remarked another ASVAHL official.

Among the main processes being tested at the French demonstration plant is an advanced one-step de-asphalting system, salt and water extraction systems for heavy crudes, atmospheric distillation and vacuum topping, visbreaking and hydrovisbreaking, and more performing catalysts.

Boost

But if the project is to succeed in its twin aims of boosting the sale of licences of French energy processes abroad and providing new technological solutions for the domestic industry, it will continue to require heavy financial support, according to M Jean-Claude Charlot, the manager of the ASVAHL venture. The project was backed financially by the EEC and the Fonds de Soutien aux Hydrocarbures; the French government fund which subsidises major domestic hydrocarbon experimental ventures. Indeed, projects like ASVAHL or the recent deep offshore drilling campaign in the Mediterranean would probably never have been undertaken were it not for the financial support of the special fund.

M Charlot says it will cost FFR 80m a year to operate the demonstration plant. He hopes the special French fund and the EEC will continue to chip in with financial aid. The French government, however, has already cut back the budget of the hydrocarbons fund.

The EEC, which will soon be coming under the presidency of the French, is also going through its own share of budgetary problems.

Endless ways of looking at the files

THE PROFESSIONAL Personal Computer is only a window on a company's files which makes its ability to store and gain access to information of particular importance.

CACI, a computer services company well known for its work on large computer files (databases), has developed a microcomputer file management system which makes use of a particularly sophisticated concept known as the relational database.

This means that the information held in the files can be examined in a number of dif-

ferent ways, according to the needs of the user.

The new system from CACI is called RL-1, and the company has issued a "pro-owners manual," which gives examples of the advantages of the relational technique.

A car distributor for example, might set up files showing serial numbers, model names, dealers, price and so on.

The kinds of questions the distributor could ask of the system could be: In what states are my various dealers located? What data do I have on X model

in my files? How many dealers do I have in Y country? There is a simple relation between the information held in the various files and simple English queries can be made to investigate these relationships.

The system is designed for use with computers running the popular operating systems IBM PC/DOS, CP/M, CP/M-86, CDOS or CROMIX.

According to CACI all kinds of data relationships—one-to-one, one-to-many or many-to-many can easily be handled. It can be used in a multi-user

environment—for example, in an automated office or banking system, and security is covered by a hierarchical four-level pass word system which protects the information, preventing unauthorised reading of the files or writing to them.

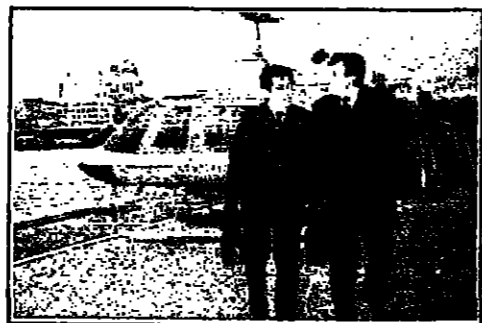
The company claims it will operate under very harsh conditions—for example in a military command and control system—and can communicate with any host-system capable of communicating via ASCII files.

More on 02514 22183.

ALAN CANE

MORE MERCHANT BANK. BETTER GLOBAL EXPERTISE.

'That's the difference'



It would take an exceptional merchant bank to be able to give you expert advice on a worldwide basis. But then, Standard Chartered's merchant banking services are exceptional. Not to say unique.

The network covers eight important financial centres around the world. And draws on the resources and expertise of Standard Chartered itself—the UK's largest independent international bank, with 1900 branches in over 60 countries.

A combination of broad geographical reach and specialised knowledge that can smooth your path

measurably, when it comes to coping with the intricacies of capital raising, financial practice and local legislation worldwide.

Consult Standard Chartered's merchant banking teams for advice and help on mergers, partnerships,

investment and takeovers; on leasing; on the provision of export and project finance; and on making the best and most cost-effective use of the international capital markets.

We think you'll find the difference an obvious—and beneficial—one. Discover it soon.

Standard Chartered
BANK PLC

Direct banking, worldwide

Head Office: 10 Clements Lane, London EC4N 7AB.

EDITED BY ALAN CANE

**FORTUNE
SYSTEMS**
To stay ahead
we think ahead

Market leaders
in micro technology
01-741 5111

Datacomms

Micom-Borer local area network

A NEW local area network designed for the non-technical user in which has been developed by Micom-Borer of Reading, Berkshire. The company says that Instant takes advantage of the fact that the same twisted pair of wires used for connecting telephones within a building can also carry data.

This means that the cost of installing a data network can be kept low. The network also has 32K links for packet access, concentrator links for remote terminal stations and connections for wide area networking. More information on 0734 566991.

Mainframes

ICL to extend range

ICL has announced that it is to extend its range of mainframe computers. This involves the ME29 range of distributed mainframe computers. This involves the ME29 range of distributed mainframe computers and includes a new entry-level processor, an increase in main storage capacity for all models, additional application development software and the availability of printed and magnetic tape devices previously offered only on ICL 2900 mainframes. More information from ICL in London on 01-778 7272.

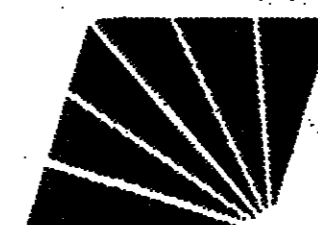
Software

Sinclair's prolog

SINCLAIR has expanded its range of educational software with an advanced programmed language, Micro-Prolog. It is a microcomputer version of Prolog which is used by the Japanese in sophisticated artificial intelligence machines.

Though traditional computer languages consist of sequences of instructions in the computer, this language communicates using familiar concepts and ideas.

Micro-Prolog is available in cassette form with a user manual and primer at a cost of £24.95 including VAT. It is available via mail order from Sinclair, Stanhope Road, Camberley, Surrey.



BANKING SYSTEMS THE SPIRIT OF COMPETITION

Competing in today's challenging financial environment, banks must be able to plan and react quickly. Financial institutions feel it is now vital to offer new products to suit market pressures, to position themselves properly within their chosen markets and to be able to monitor and achieve required profitability. However, traditional computer systems are not providing the flexibility required to enhance or even maintain the competitive edge that these institutions are entitled to demand.

Hogan Systems has recognised the need for performance and flexibility in the future and is introducing a family of revolutionary software products designed to meet the

requirements of banks and other financial institutions preparing for competition in the 80's.

Hogan's software system is a fully integrated solution to large scale financial data processing needs, addressing all areas of loan processing, deposit processing, current account processing, financial modelling, profit maximisation, profitability analysis/forecasting and marketing analysis.

With Hogan Systems, banking services can evolve to compete at the pace demanded by a changing financial world throughout the world.

**TOMORROW'S SOFTWARE
HERE TODAY.**

Hogan
SYSTEMS

Chesham House 150 Regent Street London W1R 5FA
Telephone: 01-439 6288

OVERSEAS NEWS

Life for former Burmese official

Retired Brigadier-General Tin Oo, once tipped as a possible successor to Burma's autocratic leader Ne Win, has been sentenced to life imprisonment on charges of misusing public funds, writes Chris Sherwell in Singapore.

The sentence, handed down by Rangoon court on each of five different charges, represents a humiliating climax in the downfall of a man who, until he was stripped of all his posts only six months ago, was widely reckoned to be number three in Burma's hierarchy.

At that time he was a senior official in the Burma Socialist Programme Party, a key member of the powerful state council and a high-ranking general in the army, which still controls the country.

A string of dismissals followed his departure, notably in the intelligence community—a fact adduced by some as contributing to the appalling security lapse last month which led to the North Korean terrorist bombing which killed 17 South Koreans, including four cabinet ministers.

China spy claim

China has renewed its allegations that the U.S. paid a prominent Communist newspaper editor in Hong Kong to spy for it, writes Mark Baker in Peking. Mr Luo Chengxin, 62, who edited the influential, Peking-owned New Evening Post, was jailed for ten years in April, but was released mysteriously in July. The latest allegations come from the official China news service.

Arco exploration

Atlantic Richfield of the U.S. will continue its oil explorations in the South China Sea area where a drill ship sank last month, China's official Xinhua news agency said yesterday. AP reports from Peking that the U.S. has two drilling ships to the area to continue work under a contract signed with China in September 1982, Xinhua said.

Defection to Taiwan

Taiwan received its third military defector from China in 15 months yesterday when a young Chinese airforce officer landed his Mig-17 at Chiang Kai-shek International airport, near Taipei, writes Bob King in Taipei. Wang Xuecheng, 28, took his aircraft from a base near Shanghai. He will receive about \$1.5m in gold as a reward for his defection.

Philippines charges

Customs officials in the Philippines yesterday charged an opposition leader, six business company presidents and 26 other people with smuggling and hiding dollars abroad, the government announced, AP reports from Manila. The presidential palace said charges were filed against the 33 with the Manila prosecutor's office. It said one was former Sr Dominador Aytona, board chairman of Alliance Textile Mills.

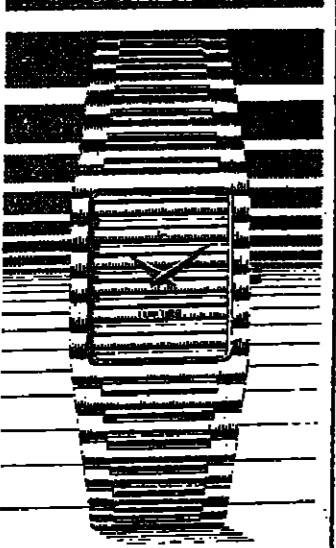
Zimbabwe prices up

Zimbabwe prices rose nearly 16 per cent for low income groups during the month of September according to official figures, Tony Hawkins reports from Harare. This was the result of a 27 per cent jump in food prices. High income group prices rose less than 5 per cent.

Harare 'regret'

The Zimbabwe Government expressed regret yesterday at the detention of five British women teachers along with at least 1,000 black women and schoolgirls in an army and police campaign against vice, AP reports from Harare. The Britains were arrested at the municipal theatre in Gweru Friday night.

C. CONCORD
COLLECTION



Concord Watch Company S A
63, rue Centrale
CH-2902 Bienne, Suisse

Ceasefire falters as Druze men shell Christians in Beirut

BY PATRICK COCKBURN IN BEIRUT

THE DECREASING effectiveness of Lebanon's seven-week ceasefire was emphasised yesterday when Druze militiamen shelled and rocketed Christian east Beirut for the first time since the truce was signed at the end of September.

The upsurge in artillery duels and sniping in the mountains above Beirut is increasing fears that the postponement of today's visit of President Amin Gemayel of Lebanon to Damascus will have a serious effect on security.

Talks with the Syrian President, Hafez al-Assad, have been put off because he has appendicitis, but the Syrian leader's inability to see President Gemayel is another blow to hopes of preventing a resumption of the fighting.

Fears are growing in the Lebanese capital that unless the Government can take some initiative, the ceasefire may soon collapse. In the light of repeated U.S. threats to retaliate against the Syrians and their allies, a breakdown of the truce would probably lead to greater U.S. military support for the Lebanese army, including air strikes.

American F-14 Tomcat jets from the aircraft carrier Eisenhower made passes over Beirut yesterday as Mr Donald Rumsfeld, President Reagan's new Middle East envoy, held

his first talks with President Gemayel.

If the ceasefire is to be preserved, diplomats say, then President Gemayel and the Phalange Party which dominates the Maronite community must do a deal with Damascus. The price of this understanding would be the abrogation of the May 17 agreement with Israel and a diminution of U.S. influence.

Since the Israeli invasion last year, the Lebanese Government has been committed to its alliance with Washington. The failure of President Reagan to get the Israelis and Syrians out of Lebanon, and his shift towards Israel in the last few weeks has reduced President Gemayel's enthusiasm for total reliance on Washington. However, it is unclear whether the Lebanese Christian leaders are really prepared to make wide-ranging concessions to President Assad.

In the northern Lebanese port of Tripoli, PLO men loyal to the leadership of Mr Yassir Arafat said they wanted to send a three-man delegation from their central committee to Damascus for talks on their differences. They say they are prepared to talk to anybody involved in the crisis within the PLO, though they assert that the rebellion is under the thumb of the Syrians.

Snap elections called in Northern Territory

BY COLIN CHAPMAN IN SYDNEY

AUSTRALIA'S Northern Territory government has called a snap election for December 3. The move comes hard on the heels of the weekend decision by the national Government that Ayers Rock, the famous landmark, would be returned to aboriginal ownership.

The Darwin government also fears that Canberra is about to declare Stage Two of the Kakadu National Park, which would end any further uranium mining, particularly at the Jabiru reserve.

The chief minister of the Northern Territory, Mr Paul Everingham, said in Darwin last night: "They have taken

uranium mining from us, and now they are just treating us like a doormat."

"The Prime Minister has put our backs to the wall, and his Government is treating us with contempt."

In Canberra, Mr Bob Hawke, the Australian Prime Minister, announced that he would visit the Northern Territory for three days this week to campaign for his Labor Party against Mr Everingham and his National Party.

The land returned to the Pitjantjatjara aboriginal tribe by the federal Government is Uluru National Park, which includes Ayers Rock.

Hawke may try to heal rift with Asean on Thai visit

BY CHRIS SHERWELL IN SINGAPORE

A FOUR-DAY visit to Thailand starting this weekend by Mr Bob Hawke, the Australian Prime Minister, has assumed unusual importance as a result of the latest angry diplomatic exchanges between Canberra and the five-member Association of South East Asian Nations (Asean).

The row blew up in September over Kampuchea, but has taken a more insulting and personal tone over the past week and threatens to strain relations irreparably unless tempers can be soothed during Mr Hawke's visit.

The rift was first revealed at the United Nations General Assembly session, when Canberra refused to co-sponsor Asean's resolution calling for Vietnam's withdrawal from Kampuchea in line with the group's carefully-formulated peace plan.

The five Asean countries—Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia and the Philippines—protested by putting off annual talks which were to be held in Australia last month. For a while there was talk of further action, including possible sanctions against Australia.

Today:
Beaujolais Nouveau



For Christmas:
Heidsieck Dry Monopole
Champagne and
Chateau Chambert Marbuzet

Bouchard Aîné
85 Ebury Street, London SW1. Tel: 01-235-3061.

Elections, and the Queen, for Bangladesh

BY JOHN ELLIOTT, SOUTH ASIA CORRESPONDENT IN DAKHA

Hundreds of tree trunks have been painted white 45 miles north of the Bangladesh capital of Dhaka. A mud track, transformed into a metalled road leads to a model village with brightly painted public buildings and symmetrical mud and straw huts. The local railway station is resplendent with fresh paint and a new concrete platform.

The area, one of the country's showpieces in its new decentralised rural administration, has been expensively groomed to greet Queen Elizabeth on her two-day State visit today and tomorrow. The Queen is on her way to the Commonwealth Prime Minister's Conference in New Delhi and her stay in Bangladesh is of key political importance to General Hossein Ershad, the 53-year-old army officer who seized power in a coup 20 months ago and who now hopes to be elected President during the coming year.

Last night a couple of hours before the Queen arrived, Gen Ershad announced that presidential elections will be held on May 24 1984, followed by parliamentary elections on November 25. He also lifted a 20-month-old ban on political meetings in an attempt to avoid street confrontation and violence. Major rallies are planned for the end of this week.

Gen Ershad has just returned from a successful tour of the

U.S. where he was praised by President Ronald Reagan for his private-sector and rural-oriented economic and institutional reforms and for his moderate Islamic foreign policies.

The Bangladesh economy is in the early stage of recovery after two or three bad years, thanks to good crops and a tough attitude to public sector prices and subsidies in last year's budget. Inflation is regarded by the Government as only marginally too high at nearly 12 per cent but population growth is still out of control at over 2.5 per cent. Bangladesh has a population of nearly 100m.

The Government has decentralised jute and textile mills and plans are being finalised for privatising two banks and permitting private sector insurance companies. Private sector investment has picked up but Ministers are still waiting anxiously for signs of industrial growth. GDP growth was only 1.2 per cent after allowing for population growth in 1982-83 and is likely to be about 2.5 per cent in the current year.

Although there has been no economic miracle, Bangladesh is no longer regarded by international agencies as a "basket case" referred to by Dr Henry Kissinger 10 years ago.

The country's international image will also be boosted by



General Ershad

Minister Pierre Trudeau of Canada and President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia. A major Islamic foreign ministers conference is to be held in a fortnight. But while these events may help to impress some of the Bangladesh population, Gen Ershad is facing growing tension at home where political parties are challenging his right to dominate the country's moves towards democracy.

"Why do they resort to violence? Burning buses is a waste of public property. I want our way to democracy with elections to be done smoothly and I have worked to keep the people with me."

People are getting food but they are shoe army and have come out onto the streets", Gen Ershad complained at the weekend during a trip to the army and agricultural centre of Bogra in the north-east region of Rajshahi.

The four showed the contrast between a general and a would-be populist politician. At a gathering of several thousand peasant farmers, Gen Ershad toured an exhibition of the region's substantial agricultural achievements. He stirred rounds of applause as he approached the crowd by clapping his hands above his head, and looked paternalistically tolerant when a peasant farmer made a speech about agricultural loans.

But some people drifted away during his own speech and he seemed much happier later in the local army mess, where he gently chastised a major for being too fast and watched a cultural show which included a song developed from one of the many poems he has written.

"In the past the army could not integrate. We have made it integrate and come to the help of the Government," he declared. "We must work out a way that the army can continue to be involved in administration."

This view goes to the heart of the dilemma which could pitch Bangladesh back from the threshold of a slow but real

economic recovery into a destructive and possibly bloody upheaval. Young army officers in particular are seething at what they call the "romanticism of socialism and the inefficiencies of the public sector." The possibility that they might try to stage a coup against Gen Ershad before he turns himself into a civilian president is a constant subject of talk in Dhaka.

Gen Ershad's plan is to hold local government elections in areas like the one the Queen is visiting in three stages (without involving political parties) by March next year. He wants to hold the presidential election after that, with martial law still in force and with him remaining chief martial law administrator.

Parliament is suspended at present and the two main political groupings, the Awami League and the Bangladesh National Party, whose activities have been controlled since early last year, want the parliamentary elections before the presidential vote so they can have a chance of removing Gen Ershad from the driving seat.

His next step will be to weld various policy committees into a political party which he will then lead, stepping down at the same time from his job as chief of army staff. It is a calculated but risky gamble, and it is by no means certain that he will be able to make the switch without losing the backing of the army.

Hong Kong increases its exports to U.S. by 34%

BY OUR HONG KONG CORRESPONDENT

CONTINUING U.S. demand for Hong Kong's electronic products and garments remained the primary fuel for the colony's recovery last month.

The latest figures for the first 10 months of this year showed that the value of the colony's exports to the U.S. increased by

34 per cent to HK\$30.3bn.

This compared with an increase in all domestic exports of 20 per cent to HK\$72.6bn for the same period, and an increase of 19 per cent for re-exports to HK\$38.6bn.

Textiles accounted for a large part of Hong Kong's steady

recovery. Clothing exports to all markets increased by HK\$2.8bn or 34 per cent.

China alone bought two-thirds more than in the previous year—an increase worth HK\$443m—out of a total increase in exports to Peking of more than 50 per cent.

Overall, business between the mainland and the colony continued to grow. China remains the biggest re-export market and source of imports.

Although textiles were the mainstay, the fastest growth sector was the telecommunications-stereo category, up 36 per cent to HK\$5.7bn.

Meanwhile, Reuter reports from Peking, Chinese and British officials opened a sixth round of discussions on the future of Hong Kong. As usual the content of the talks remained a closely-guarded secret, but a brief joint statement is expected today.

THE ALTERNATIVE

Change a manager who only knocks your proposition for one who helps you knock it into shape.

'Let's face it, borrowing money isn't easy,' says Bill Wagstaff, 'that's why we go out of our way to help customers as much as possible.'

'As any Williams & Glyn's customer who's been to us for a loan will tell you, a meeting with one of our managers tends to be an agreeable combination of businesslike cooperation with relaxed friendliness and informality.'

'This is particularly helpful to customers who run their own businesses. They don't have large accounts departments backing them up. And putting a proposition for a loan together isn't easy, even though it's a sound one. Only too often a good case for extra finance has been delayed or lost purely because it has been inadequately prepared. Our managers are well aware of this and are always ready to offer advice, to see if a proposition can be knocked into shape. They like to look for reasons why they can lend, not reasons why they can't.'

'For a really flexible loan take a look at our Business Borrowing Plan.'

With the Williams & Glyn's Business Borrowing Plan, loans for fixed assets can either be at fixed rates so you know exactly how much the loan will cost you over its duration, or they can be linked to the Bank's Base Rate so that the interest varies with market forces.

Fixed rate loans are available from £5,000 to £100,000 over up to 5 years, with interest and capital being repaid monthly. Variable rate loans are available from £10,000 to £250,000 over up to 10 years, and whilst interest is payable quarterly, it may be possible to schedule the capital repayments to suit the cash flow of your business.

For a free booklet Borrowing for the Purchase of Assets, which includes further details of our Business Borrowing Plan, call in at any Williams & Glyn's branch, or simply post the Freepost coupon below.

WILLIAMS & GLYN'S
The Alternative Bank.

NO STAMP REQUIRED
Post to Williams & Glyn's Bank plc, Dept. B15
FREEPOST LONDON EC3B 3LP
Please send me your free booklet
Borrowing for the Purchase of Assets

NAME _____
TITLE _____
COMPANY _____
ADDRESS _____
TEL. NO. _____

WORLD TRADE NEWS

Dow to set up Saudi venture to make insulation foam

BY CARLA RAPOPORT

DOW CHEMICAL, one of the world's largest chemical companies, plans to establish its first manufacturing base in Saudi Arabia in a deal worth \$90m.

The new plant, which will produce extruded polystyrene foam insulation, will be constructed as part of a joint venture with E. A. Juffali and Bros, a privately-held Saudi Arabian industrial group. The new project will be managed by the Arabian Chemical Company, a new joint venture between Juffali and Dow.

Nigerian petrochemicals

BY PETER BLACKBURN IN LAGOS

DESPITE cuts in new project spending, Nigeria's petrochemicals development programme—one of the world's largest worth some \$2bn—is moving ahead, according to Mr Odohy Loloimari, the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation's petrochemicals general manager.

Two civil works contracts have recently been awarded. Although there has been slippage, phase one of the programme should be completed by the end of 1985, six months behind schedule, he said.

Phase one involves construction of petrochemicals complexes near the Warri and Kaduna refineries to produce feedstocks to make plastics, synthetic fibres, tyres, detergents and paint solvents.

South Korea's Daewoo Corporation was awarded an \$80m civil works contract for polystyrene, carbon black and alkylation plants at the petrochemicals complex near Warri in Bendel State.

Stirling Civil Engineering of the UK also was awarded a civil and mechanical works contract worth \$91m for a linear alkyl benzene plant at Kaduna.

the facility's initial output.

Just a year ago, Dow Chemical pulled out of a \$1.5bn petrochemical joint venture with Saudi Arabian Basic Industries Corporation (Sabic), citing widespread overcapacity in basic commodity petrochemicals like ethylene and polystyrene. Dow considers extruded polystyrene a specialty petrochemical because it commands higher profit margins than most commodity petrochemicals.

Although the new Sabic petrochemical plants will be onstream in 1985 and will be producing polystyrene, Dow says it plans to source its raw materials for its new plant from Europe. The company says that the Sabic plants are not currently geared to produce the grade of polystyrene which it will require. If such products do become available, however, Dow says it will consider purchasing them from Sabic.

Algeria is boosting the world's LPG supply. Francis Ghiles explains why

Arzew plant threatens overcapacity

ALGERIAN LPG PRODUCTION, CONSUMPTION AND EXPORTS

	1982			1984			1985			1986		
	Low	Best estimate	High	Low	Best estimate	High	Low	Best estimate	High	Low	Best estimate	High
Total production	1.7	2.0	2.2	2.2	3.2	3.9	2.5	4.0	4.0	3.2	5.0	7.2
Domestic demand	0.5	1.2	1.4	0.9	1.3	1.5	1.0	1.4	1.4	1.0	1.5	1.8
LPG exports	0.6	0.9	1.0	1.2	1.9	2.8	1.5	2.6	4.5	2.0	3.5	5.5

Source: Data and Decisions

Markets and Prices — The Critical Years, 1982-86" by Data and Decisions*. Premium markets are those where LPG has traditionally commanded premium prices, for example for home heating.

Once that premium market is satisfied, the risk of a sharp fall in the price of LPG, which would then be competing with naphtha as an ethylene feedstock for the petrochemical industry, is considerable. Such a decline in price would, in effect, allow European and Japanese petrochemical companies to set the clearing price.

LPG consists of both butane and propane. But, as butane is increasingly used in European refineries as an alternative to lead derivatives in enhancing octane values, as low lead levels are increasingly imposed, its premium over that of propane is being established.

LPG is extracted either from crude oil, as is generally the

case in Saudi Arabia or from gas as is the case in the U.S. and Algeria. The total world market for LPG stands at around 100m tonnes a year with the U.S. both the largest producer (34m tonnes in 1982) and consumer (about 39m tonnes).

Future supply-demand balance for LPG is more affected by uncertainties about supplies than demand, as LPG production is wholly governed by crude oil and gas production which, in turn, is linked to energy demand and hence world economic activity. Such uncertainties are enhanced by Saudi Arabia's role, since 1983, as Opec's major swing producer of crude oil as the report stresses.

As the Kingdom's production of crude declined dramatically last winter, Saudi authorities cut existing LPG contracts by about 40 per cent. The result was a sharp increase in LPG prices, from \$245 a tonne in

November 1982 to \$280 in May 1983.

This increase was all the more ironic as it happened at a time when crude oil prices declined from \$34 to \$29 a barrel, an event which, under the Saudi contract formula, should have reduced the price of LPG to about \$200 a tonne.

The Japanese, meanwhile, who will remain the biggest importers of LPG for the foreseeable future, have been busy diversifying their sources away from Gulf producers. They have won many contracts in Algeria in recent years and view the North African market as important.

This squares with Algeria's constant preoccupation with diversifying its foreign trading partners. Sonatrach has been exporting LPG and condensates to Japan—the natural gas it produces is, for the time, ruled out because of distance—and can expect to increase its sales to Japan in the coming years.

Algeria tries hard to balance its trade with its major partners, and Japanese companies know that their success in winning Algerian contracts is, to a degree, predicated on the volume of LPG and condensates they buy from Sonatrach.

The Data and Decisions study puts the best estimate of Algerian LPG exports in 1984 at 1.9m tonnes. When this figure is set against a high estimate of 2.8m tonnes and a low of 1.2m, the degree of uncertainty is obvious.

The Algerian insistence upon obtaining what it believes to be a realistic price for oil, gas and LPG may result in exports and LPG production being reduced. The options open to Algeria, should that happen, are to reject the LPG, retain it in the natural gas which is exported through the Trans-Mediterranean pipeline to Italy, or store it in aquifers.

The dilemma for Algeria is that the increased production that it could bring on to the market over the next three years could well be sufficient to tip the world LPG balance into surplus.

Nevertheless, Algeria may decide to trim its exports to maintain a balanced market and avoid a significant fall in prices. *LPG Markets and Prices: The Critical Years 1982-1986. Data and Decisions, 1982. 110 pages. \$10.00. London: W.T. Tel: 01-499 9000.

U.S. record industry seeks help on pirates

By Nancy Dunne in Washington

THE AMERICAN recording industry is seeking assistance from the U.S. State Department, the International Trade Commission (ITC) and Congress to help control the flow of counterfeit and pirated sound recordings.

In a report submitted to the ITC, the recording industry estimated losses of \$515m in 1982 for 240m counterfeit records and tapes sold in foreign markets. The group is urging passage of reciprocity legislation which contains provisions protecting intellectual property rights and is asking the State Department to strengthen worldwide policing of stolen and counterfeit sound recordings.

The growing practice of piracy affects not only U.S. based companies, the industry group said, but their foreign subsidiaries, divisions, joint ventures and licensees.

In a country-by-country breakdown of violations, based on 1982 data collected by the International Federation of Phonogram and Videogram Producers, the report alleges: one of the worst offenders is Singapore where an estimated 700 counterfeit and pirate sound recordings were exported in 1982;

in Indonesia 40m counterfeit and pirate tapes were manufactured and sold with an estimated market value of \$75.2m;

Counterfeit and pirate tapes constituted about 55 per cent of the market in Korea, 10 per cent in Thailand, 45 per cent in Malaysia, 40 per cent in the Philippines and 65 per cent in Taiwan.

U.S. film discs and tapes compete about 92 to 95 per cent of the market in most Middle East countries, with Egypt being the most important market. The local Egyptian recording industry indicates that there are two major pirate markets in Egypt, both known to the police, but authorities have yet to move against the counterfeiters, the report says.

The Netherlands—while it harbours a very small counterfeit market—has become a major trans-shipment point for illicit recordings—to and from the rest of the world. One shipment of 415,000 discs seized was thought to have been produced in Spain for distribution throughout Europe.

In the rest of Europe, the industry names three other alleged offenders: Greece, \$10m in counterfeit items, nearly 77 per cent of the market; Portugal, \$12m in counterfeit items, nearly 70 per cent of the market; and Italy, \$3 per cent of the tapes and 5 per cent of the discs sold were counterfeit at a value of \$21.2m.

Japan dominates the medical equipment imports market and last year exported \$69.5m of total Chinese imports of \$82m from the non-Communist world. Other leading exporters were Hong Kong, the U.S. and West Germany, all of which were among substantial importers of Chinese medical products.

The report says that the Chinese medical authorities are keen on the top end of the diagnostic equipment market and that there are opportunities for joint venture deals and technology transfer agreements. Decisions on purchasing are made centrally by the China National Chemicals Import and Export Corporation, Sinochem, but a crucial element in the purchasing decisions are made by the country's six major medical colleges.

*Marketing Medical Equipment, Hospital Supplies and Pharmaceuticals in the World's Medical Markets. Price £25 (U.K. and Europe), \$30 rest of the world. P.O. Box 1, Chichester, West Sussex.

Japan's third largest car manufacturer, Toyo Kogyo, confirmed yesterday that it is conducting a general study of the possibility of manufacturing motor vehicles in the U.S. The study has been in progress since early 1982, and no firm date has been set for its completion.

Toyo Kogyo denied a report in the Japanese press that it is considering a detailed plan to produce cars in Tennessee. The company has not got as far as considering the location of a plant in the U.S., a company spokesman said.

Ford owns a 25 per cent equity stake in Toyo Kogyo. Toyo Kogyo exported 150,000 cars to the U.S. in 1982 and expects to ship the same number this year. The company also sells between 70,000 and 80,000 trucks a year in the U.S.

UK seeks Spanish missile sale

BY TOM BURNS IN MADRID

MR GEOFFREY Pattie, British Minister of State for Defence Procurement, arrived in Madrid today to bolster British Aerospace's efforts to gain a major missile contract from the Spanish Government. Madrid's Defence Ministry is due to decide before the end of the year

on a Pts33bn (£144m) order for surface-to-air missiles.

Official sources said that Mr Pattie would be discussing closer co-operation in general between London and Madrid but would concentrate specifically on the possible purchase of Rapier or Laserfire missiles, manufactured by

British Aerospace.

The British missiles have been shortlisted by the Spanish Defence ministry along with the Roland missile, built by Euro-missile, a French-German consortium, and the Chaparral, manufactured by Ford Aerospace.

China 'to be big market for medical equipment'

BY GARETH GRIFFITHS

CHINA is projected to become the world's largest market for medical equipment by the year 2000 according to a report published last week which argues that there is considerable scope for sales of advanced imported medical equipment.

It argues that with the pattern of serious illness in China becoming similar to the industrialised West and an increase in the number of non-traditional doctors, there will be greater demand for electromedical equipment, medical instruments and X-ray equipment.

The report by WorldWide Medical Markets* (WMM), a West Sussex-based research group, points out that China has a large balance of trade surplus in medical and pharmaceutical products, with a substantial trade in bulk pharmaceuticals sold to Japan. Last year the trade surplus in the pharmaceutical sector was \$121m and in medical equipment the surplus was \$41m achieved by a massive surplus in mattresses and bedding exports.

WMM says that while China now is a small market for medical equipment, the modernisation of the country's health services will lead to con-

siderably increased opportunities for exporters. China is committed to spend at least 5 per cent of GNP on health care provision by the year 2000. By then it will have overtaken the U.S. as the world's largest medical market.

Japan dominates the medical equipment imports market and last year exported \$69.5m of total Chinese imports of \$82m from the non-Communist world. Other leading exporters were Hong Kong, the U.S. and West Germany, all of which were among substantial importers of Chinese medical products.

The report says that the Chinese medical authorities are keen on the top end of the diagnostic equipment market and that there are opportunities for joint venture deals and technology transfer agreements. Decisions on purchasing are made centrally by the China National Chemicals Import and Export Corporation, Sinochem, but a crucial element in the purchasing decisions are made by the country's six major medical colleges.

*Marketing Medical Equipment, Hospital Supplies and Pharmaceuticals in the World's Medical Markets. Price £25 (U.K. and Europe), \$30 rest of the world. P.O. Box 1, Chichester, West Sussex.

Jamaican exporters given warning on hard currency

BY CAMUTE JAMES IN KINGSTON

A PUBLIC ROW has erupted between the Jamaican Government and the island's exporters over threats by Mr Edward Seaga, the Prime Minister and Finance Minister, to prosecute traders who have violated the exchange control regulations by not converting their hard currency earnings into Jamaican dollars in the stipulated 90-day period.

According to Mr Seaga, in letters of warning sent to offending exporters, outstanding payments total \$60m. He said the delinquent exporters must surrender their hard currency earnings to the central bank within 90 days of delivery.

The traders could face fines of up to US\$100,000 or jail terms of up to 10 years. The island's exporters have described the Prime Minister's letter and threat as "quite offensive," saying the stipulated 90-day period was too short.

Mr Geoffrey Messado, president of the Association of Exporters, said the requirement "makes no sense."

"If this is an example of Government's reaction to people who are trying to export in order to earn much-needed foreign exchange for the country, I can see that those of us who do not have to export will soon stop exporting," Mr Messado said.

Mr Seaga's action is prompted by a growing hunger for hard currency for the cash-starved Jamaican economy and by the need to close the widening trade gap. Jamaica's trade deficit last year reached US\$612m, which was US\$116.1m more than in 1981.

The threat of prosecution follows hard on complaints from exporters about increasing difficulties in obtaining adequate hard currency to finance imports of raw materials. Mr Douglas Vaz, the industry Minister, said recently that the business community was holding import licences valued at US\$288m for the rest of this year but that the Government had only \$179m in assured funds.

Toyo Kogyo considers U.S. vehicle plant

By Charles Smith, Far East Editor in Tokyo

Japan's third largest car manufacturer, Toyo Kogyo, confirmed yesterday that it is conducting a general study of the possibility of manufacturing motor vehicles in the U.S. The study has been in progress since early 1982, and no firm date has been set for its completion.

Toyo Kogyo denied a report in the Japanese press that it is considering a detailed plan to produce cars in Tennessee. The company has not got as far as considering the location of a plant in the U.S., a company spokesman said.

Ford owns a 25 per cent equity stake in Toyo Kogyo. Toyo Kogyo exported 150,000 cars to the U.S. in 1982 and expects to ship the same number this year. The company also sells between 70,000 and 80,000 trucks a year in the U.S.

Get us to chip in for your hi-tech project.

I'd like to know how my hi-tech business can profit from setting up in Wales. I'm particularly interested in: ☐ Finance ☐ Premises ☐ Advice.

Name _____

Position _____

Nature of business _____

Company _____

Address _____

Telephone No. _____

WDA
Welsh Development Agency

FT/461P/83

TO WELSH DEVELOPMENT AGENCY, PONTYPRIDD, MID GLAMORGAN CF37 3UT. TELEPHONE (0441) 3851 2556.

TOURISTS NOT ALLOWED

A man travelling on business needs more than a man travelling on holiday. That's why the Brussels Sheraton Hotel Service offers everything the busy businessman needs. Like a separate hotel entrance, deluxe rooms, helpful Tower Stewards and lots more.

Why not call 02/218 34 00 for more information and reservations?

Sheraton Towers
Brussels Sheraton Hotel
Place Rogier 3
1000 Brussels, Belgium
INTERNATIONAL RESERVATIONS
RUE DE LA LOI 20
LONDON W1C 699 411
FRANKFURT 0611/266306

Can You Remember The Details Of Your Last Business Conversation?

Do You Have Proof Of Verbal Commitment?

VANCEREAD can provide protection and proof of every business or personal conversation with:

• Briefcase recorders • Micro miniature pocket recorders
• Super long 24 hour recorders • The First British Telecom Approved telephone recorder

VANCEREAD
62 South Audley St, London W1 (01) 629-0223 Telex: 8814707



"We used to have a computer as powerful as this Wang PC back in the '70's.

It weighed twenty tons, took seventy people to operate it and cost slightly less than a battleship."

"You had to queue for weeks just for the opportunity to spend five minutes with it.

It was kept in a back room or maybe the basement.

It was protected from pollution by an anti-dust carpet and elaborate air conditioning.

You needed a Ph.D. in computer science just to switch it on.

Now I have an infinitely more advanced computer that lives right here on my desk. The Wang PC.

It costs a fraction of its predecessor.

It's capable of word processing, accounting, forward planning, filing, drawing graphs. You name it. The keyboard can even sit on your knee and look pretty.

I can please myself whether I write my own programmes or not, there's more than enough software off the shelf.

Above all, it integrates with the complete Wang product range of office automation equipment. In fact it's the cornerstone of Wang Office Automation.

It also connects into other computers.

So unlike the twenty ton version, this one, the Wang Professional Computer, won't be out of date before you pay for it.

You just keep adding to it over the years."

WANG

**The Office Automation
Computer People.**

WANG (UK) LTD., 661 LONDON ROAD, ISLEWORTH, MIDDX. TEL: 01-560 4151.
LONDON, BIRMINGHAM, MANCHESTER, LEEDS.

ABBHEY NATIONAL RAISE THE RATE FOR SEVEN DAY MONEY!

8.25% Net p.a. **=** **11.79%** Gross

If you can give one week's notice before withdrawals, you can really make the most of your money.

New and existing investors in Abbey National's Seven Day Account now enjoy an exceptional new rate of interest.

And that annual rate, if you leave the half-yearly interest to grow in the account, increases further to a useful 8.42% net of basic rate tax.

BEATS BANKS, MARKETS, AUTHORITIES

Not only does this new rate rival those offered elsewhere on much longer notice, it comfortably exceeds conventional bank deposits on seven days' notice.

And the net rate even exceeds the net rate available from such 'professional' homes for seven day money as the money market, local authority bonds and Ceefax-quoted finance houses.

EXTRA INTEREST WITHOUT THE SNAGS

Your money is available on seven days' notice of withdrawal, without any financial penalties for withdrawal. That's a lot better than many extra interest schemes with instant withdrawal but with the loss of a full 28 days' interest.



JUST £100 MINIMUM!

The message is clear: if you've got £100 or more, and can give seven days' notice of withdrawal, your money should be in an Abbey National Seven Day Account. And nowhere else.

Come on in!

SEVEN DAY ACCOUNT

To: Dept. 7.D.A., Abbey National Building Society, FREEPOST, United Kingdom House, 180 Oxford Street, London W1E 3YZ.

I/We enclose a cheque, numbered _____ for £ _____ to be invested in a Seven Day Account at my/our local branch in _____ Please send me full details and an application card. Minimum investment £100. Maximum £30,000 per person. £60,000 joint account.

I/We understand that withdrawals can be made at any time, subject to my/our having given 7 days' written notice.

I/We understand that the rate may vary.

I/We would like the half-yearly interest:

- A. added to the Seven Day Account ☐
B. paid direct to me/us ☐

(tick appropriate box)

Full name(s) _____
Address _____
Postcode _____

Signature(s) _____
Date _____ FT63

ABBHEY NATIONAL
For the security you need today



* Equivalent gross rate where income tax is paid at the basic rate of 30%.

ABBHEY NATIONAL BUILDING SOCIETY, 27 BAKER STREET, LONDON W1M 2AA.

WORLD TRADE

GE clears way for Australia's biggest takeover deal

BY LACHLAN DRUMMOND IN SYDNEY

THE DECISION by General Electric (GE) of the U.S. that it is to take a 20 to 25 per cent stake in the Utah Coal Associates (UCA) consortium plus a similar stake in another mine owned by the consortium's leader, Broken Hill Proprietary (BHP), should enable Australia's biggest ever takeover deal to be completed, although in substantially modified form.

For some months, BHP has been trying to find equity partners to join it in the U.S.\$2.4bn consortium to bid for the whole of GE's subsidiary Utah International. Having passed the original deadline set for completion of the deal at the end of October, BHP has now clearly had to ask GE to hide its time in its plans to rid itself of Utah International and its largely coal mining assets.

The move also changes the shareholding pattern in the Australian coal industry and leaves BHP with a larger holding than originally envisaged in this difficult sector. Before the GE move to retain a stake in UCA was announced, the position was that Utah International (UI) was essentially divided into two wings. The first was primarily its Australian holdings, grouped under the banner of Utah Development (88.2 per cent owned by Utah International with the remaining 10.8 per cent of the shares held by Umal Consolidated - an Australian mining company). This contained the lion's share of the coking coal mines of Queensland and a share in an iron ore mine in Western Australia.

The other side to UI was its non-Australian holdings. These range from coal mines in New Mexico and Kentucky, a copper mine on Vancouver Island, an open-cut iron ore mine in Brazil and various undeve-

loped properties in the U.S., Chile, South Africa and Indonesia. It was this spread of international assets that attracted BHP to make its bid, that was to have been carried through via a consortium, in January of this year.

Utah Development held a controlling 78.25 per cent stake in the main Queensland coking coal company, Central Queensland Coal Associates (CQCA), as well as owning outright the Blackwater Mine. Its partners in CQCA were Mitsubishi (12 per cent), Australian Mutual Provident Society (7.75 per cent) and Umal (4 per cent).

In its attempts to form the consortium to bid for the whole of UI, BHP turned to GE's existing partners in the CQCA but appears to have failed to persuade them that they need to have a bigger stake in Australia's coal industry.

The three companies, Mitsubishi, AMP and Umal are to take 9 per cent, 6 per cent and 12 per cent respectively of the yet to be formed UCA. At the end of October it became clear that BHP was unable to find takers for the outstanding 33 per cent holding in UCA - it having already raised its own stake beyond that originally planned, to 44 per cent.

Faced with the prospect of the deal falling through, GE appears to have decided that for the time being retaining a 20 to 25 per cent stake in UCA is better than being stuck with UI for the foreseeable future. The remaining 6 to 13 per cent of UCA is to be placed with other groups. It is thought that Pancontinental may be interested in a 5 per cent stake and that Umal may be prepared to lift its holding to as much as 20 per cent.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT

JONATHAN DE LEIGHTON SQUIRES
GORDON C. MUIR-CARBY
PAUL H. A. CLEGG

and

MICHAEL R. LATRONICA

have joined

CONNING OVERSEAS LTD.

(An Associated Partnership of Conning & Co.)
(Members of the New York Stock Exchange, Inc.)

In the U.S.A.:
41 Lewis Street
Hartford C.T.
(203) 244 3108
Telex: 994428

In the UK:
1-3 St. Paul's Churchyard
London, EC4
01-236 9821
Telex: 887867

HOW MANY PENSIONS ARE YOU KEEPING ON ICE?



You don't need us to remind you about the burden of administering frozen pensions.

But have you considered it from your ex-employees' point of view?

They may have given you years of valuable service.

In most cases, all they stand to collect is a preserved pension based on their salary at the time of leaving your employ.

Eroded, of course, by the effect of inflation.

Hardly seems fair does it?

Happily, there's now an alternative to suit both employer and employee.

It's called the NEL Transfer Plan.

As the name implies, you can transfer the administrative burdens to us.

In return we offer you a choice of contract options.

Either a guaranteed minimum pension at the lowest cost.

Or guaranteed pension growth offering a substantial interest potential up to retirement age.

(A particularly attractive option for senior staff looking to maximise their pension prospects.)

Our plan also allows new employees to transfer a previous pension entitlement.

In all cases each transfer only requires a single payment.

With no limit on the number of transfers you can make in a year.

At a stroke we can help your employees to beat the freeze.

And help you cut through the red tape of pension administration.

All it takes is a pair of scissors.

NEL IS A MEMBER OF THE BRITANNIA ARROW GROUP

To: The Marketing Department, National Employers Life, FREEPOST, Milton Court, Dorking, Surrey RH4 3LZ. Tel: Dorking (0306) 887766.

Please send me full details of the NEL Transfer Plan.

Name _____

Company _____

Address _____

NEL National Employers Life.

THE TRANSFER PLAN.

FT6/ICE

UK NEWS

Pension funds account for quarter of shares

BY JOHN MOORE, CITY CORRESPONDENT

MORE THAN a quarter of UK company shares are held by pension funds and the proportion of shares held by individuals is declining. The latest trends are revealed in a survey published yesterday by the London Stock Exchange.

The survey, carried out by the economics department of the stock exchange, shows the trend of ordinary share ownership until the end of 1981. The last previous survey showed the trends until the end of 1975 and was published by the Department of Industry.

Between 1975 and 1981 the pension fund proportion of holdings in shares rose from 16.8 per cent to 26.7 per cent, the most dramatic advance in percentage terms. The value of the shares which they held at the end of 1981 stood at £26.5bn, compared with £7.5bn in 1975.

Investment trust and other financial companies' holdings fell from 10.5 per cent in 1975 to 6.8 per cent by 1981. Unit trusts also showed a small decline from 4.1 per cent to 3.6 per cent. Insurance companies' holdings rose from 15.9 per cent to 20.5 per cent.

At the end of 1981 private inves-

tors held just 23.2 per cent of UK equities compared with 37.5 per cent at the end of 1975. But the total value of individuals' holdings had risen to £28bn, compared with £16.7bn.

The survey says that the percentage decline can be attributed in part to the growing funds available to institutional investors which come from individuals.

Methods of indirect saving by individuals "have grown enormously over the last few years," the survey says. "In large measure these trends have been substantially supported by the impact of the tax system."

Share purchases have to be financed from post-tax income while the tax-free contributions to pension funds, financed only in part, if at all, by employees all have been a powerful incentive to channel funds through this type of intermediary.

The pension based on final salary has become an important part of an employee's total benefits, "especially to those who make their career with one employer. There appears, therefore, a less perceived need to

provide individually for retirement."

Throughout the 1970s the economic climate "has not appeared to favour direct investment and savers have adopted safety-first attitudes. Where savings growth has occurred it has been concentrated in deposit-type investment through banks, national savings and, most particularly, through building societies."

The decline in the proportion of personal shareholdings "might be arrested as the benefits of wider share ownership "are now more fully understood." The growth of profit-sharing schemes and the introduction of the Business Start-Up Scheme, since extended into a more general Business Expansion Scheme might also help to arrest the decline. "However, we have yet to see any substantial move to encourage a revival of direct investment in established stock exchange listed businesses."

The Stock Exchange Survey of Share Ownership, a supplement to the Stock Exchange Fact service published by the London Stock Exchange.

Lex, Page 29

Tank industry warned of export threat

By Lynton McLain

THE WEST European battle tank industry faces a threat from Brazil, South Korea and Taiwan which are about to enter the export market for main battle tanks. This is according to Mr Christopher Fox, the editor of the latest edition of Jane's Armour and Artillery, published today.

The threat to export markets which have been traditionally dominated by Western tank manufacturers comes as the European makers face declining orders from their own armed forces.

The makers of main battle tanks in the UK (Vickers and the Royal Ordnance Factories) and in West Germany, France and Spain face a fall in orders with the completion, by the mid-1980s, of present domestic contracts. These major tank manufacturers have a "somewhat bleak outlook," Jane's editor says.

Kodak cuts jobs in colour print business

FINANCIAL TIMES REPORTER

KODAK, the photographic company, is to stop developing holiday snapshots under its own name and will axe nearly half the staff at its colour processing department at Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire.

It wants to make 170 workers redundant in addition to 100 jobs lost earlier this year. The cuts have been caused by increasing competition from independent photo finishers.

Kodak will still be involved in the colour print business through partly or wholly owned subsidiaries operating elsewhere in the UK under different names. At Hemel Hempstead, it will also continue to process colour slides and movie films.

The ending of print finishing at Hemel Hempstead is blamed by industry sources on Kodak's slower service compared with those of its competitors.

However, Mr Peter Liddell, district secretary of the Transport and

General Workers' Union, blamed the redundancies on the activities of so-called "sweet shops."

"We have been put out of work by sweet shops, which are undercutting Kodak rates because they do not pay their employees the cost of money and provide the same working conditions as Kodak."

The company is taking the view that the situation is not going to improve and it is time to pull the plug out," he said.

Kodak is also considering selling a 10-acre site at Hemel Hempstead and transferring its remaining developing work to an adjoining 30-acre site that contains a new distribution warehouse.

Earlier this year Kodak announced that it was closing its international parent company headquarters in High Holborn, central London, and its marketing and advertising offices in Basingstoke, on the north-western outskirts of London.

DETERMINATION.
IT'S THE RESOURCE
SUCCESSSES ARE MADE OF

It is also the difference between banks. At Bank of Boston, we believe there is no limit to the power of determination. We have seen it at work with leaders like Polaroid and Wang. They are some of the companies we have been able to help along the way in the areas of Cash Management, International Factoring, Lending, World Trade and Stock Transfer.

Determination. It got you

where you are today. It got us where we are: one of America's leading banks for 200 years with over 200 offices in 40 countries around the world and throughout the United States.

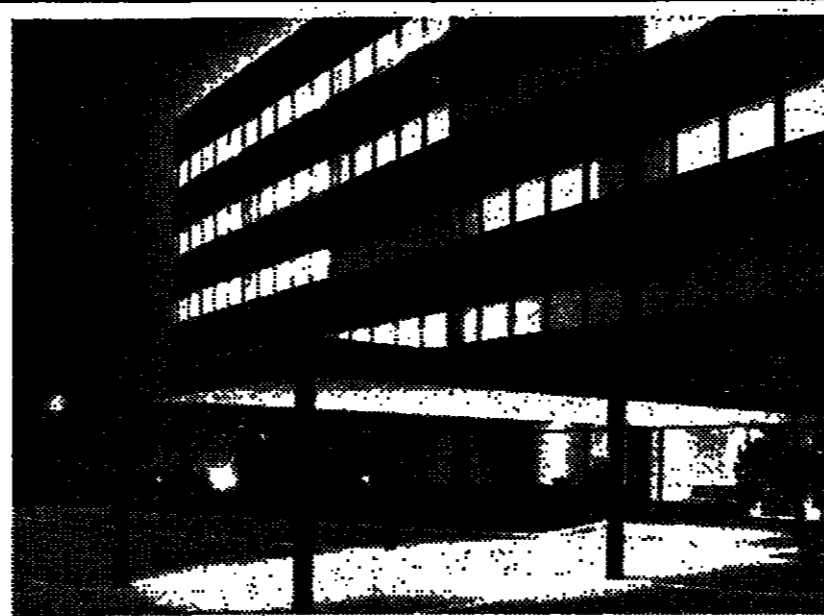
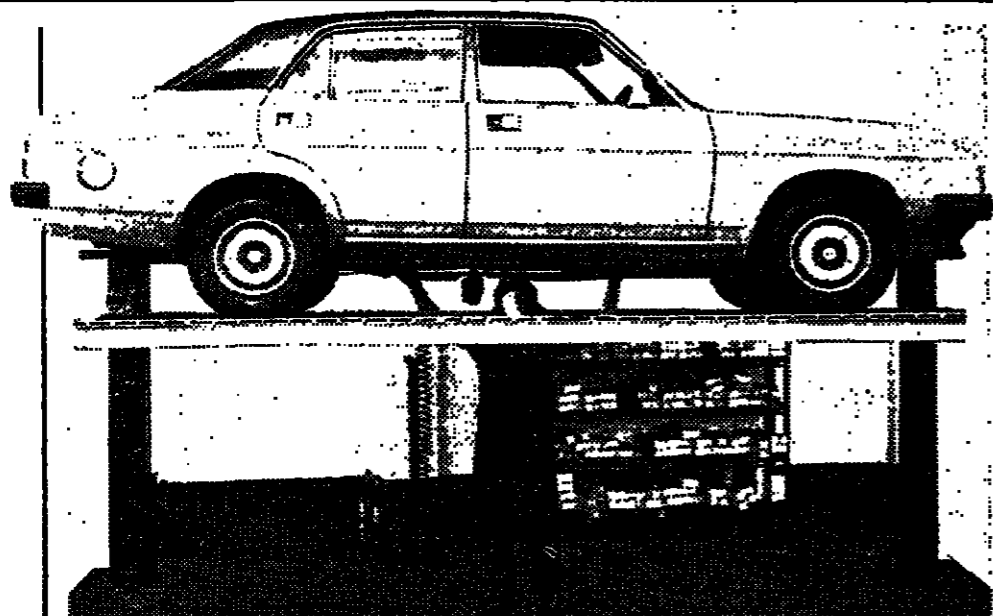
So if you are a company determined to get ahead in the world, Bank of Boston wants you to know you are not alone. Because no bank is more determined to see you succeed than we are.



BANK OF BOSTON

WORLD HEADQUARTERS BOSTON. U.S. OFFICES IN DALLAS • CHICAGO • HOUSTON • LOS ANGELES • MIAMI • NEW YORK. WORLDWIDE OFFICES IN ARGENTINA • AUSTRALIA • BAHAMAS • BRAZIL • CANADA • CAMEROON • CAYMAN ISLANDS • CHILE • COSTA RICA • DOMINICAN REPUBLIC • FRANCE • GERMANY • GUATEMALA • HAITI • HONDURAS • HONG KONG • JAPAN • ITALY • KOREA • LUXEMBOURG • MEXICO • NICARAGUA • PANAMA • PARAGUAY • PERU • PHILIPPINES • PUERTO RICO • SINGAPORE • SWITZERLAND • TAIWAN • THAILAND • UNITED KINGDOM • URUGUAY • VENEZUELA • ZIMBABWE

©1983 THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOSTON



Every company counts the cost of wages and raw materials but not every company considers the amount they spend on energy.

For it's not generally realised just how high a proportion of direct production costs it represents.

And when you consider the sharp rise in fuel prices over the last ten years you'll understand why energy costs should be the urgent talking point of boardrooms up and down the country.

Yet energy is one of the easiest resources to control once the full managerial weight of a company has been put behind it.

It is also true to say that those companies who have gained control over the amount of energy they use are now in a much more competitive position for the future. Hence the growing number

Do you really know how much
it costs to keep them going?

of organisations who have taken the all-important step of appointing an Energy Manager. An Energy Efficiency Survey can help him provide an in-depth analysis of how his company can make the best use of its energy and can be 50% funded by the Energy Efficiency Office.

Others have turned to the Energy Conservation Demonstration Projects Scheme which has given them the relevant technical information needed to put through an energy-saving programme.

If you'd like more information on how your company can benefit from saving energy, together with more details of the ECDPS and EES schemes, fill in the coupon.

To: Energy Efficiency Office, P.O. Box 702, London SW20 8SZ.
Please send me more information on how I can make better use of energy.

Name _____
Job Title _____
Address _____
Tel. _____
ENERGY EFFICIENCY OFFICE

UK NEWS

FT COMMERCIAL LAW REPORTS

Communication 'block' in office systems

BY JASON CRISP

BRITISH SUPPLIERS of office automation systems are being urged to work harder to improve communications with their customers.

A report yesterday from the National Economic Development Office (NEDO) recommends that suppliers should look again at their marketing material, their manuals and guides.

In many cases these needed to be rewritten in simple, jargon-free terms to remove a communications blockage, it said.

The study, prepared by the Information Technology Development Committee, had a sharp warning for some of the UK suppliers. It says a number of users saw the worst of UK suppliers as:

- Preoccupied with technology rather than the users' needs.
- Conditioned by selling to the public sector rather than commercial markets.

- Capable only of offering part of a system themselves, yet also unwilling to work with other companies capable of offering the balance.
- Offering often excellent products, but not supporting them.

As systems increase in complexity to users, even knowledgeable ones, turn to manufacturers who give the impression that they understand

the application and are committed to supporting it, the report says.

The level of office automation in most of the UK manufacturing and service sectors was low compared with that in competitors in other advanced western economies.

Those UK companies which had decided on a wholesale implementation of information technology systems tended to be the most dynamic and profitable organisations operating in the expanding sectors of the economy.

Those organisations, had recognised the high potential for improved productivity and performance in management. Their main motivation is to enhance the exploitation of information as a prime business resource, ... to improve the quality of service provision and to maintain their competitive edge by staying ahead on the learning curve.

While business could justify buying office automation equipment in terms of increasing output and market share, the emphasis in the public sector was towards cost control.

A user perspective on information technology, *23 Aspects from NEDO Books, Milbank Trust, Milbank, London SW1P 4QX.*

Charterers' liability to grant indemnity for ships' arrest

Queen's Bench Division (Commercial Court): Mr Justice Staughton November 3 1983

WHERE a ship's master, acting in good faith and according to normal practice, delivers cargo to the wrong person on the order of the charterer, the charterer is liable to indemnify the owners of the ship if she is subsequently arrested and they thereby suffer loss.

Mr Justice Staughton so held when giving judgment for A/S Hansen - Tange Rederi III, owners of the Sagona, in their claim against charterers, Total Transport Corporation, of Panama, for indemnity for losses incurred as a result of the vessel's arrest by shippers for misdelivery of cargo.

His lordship said that in July 1978 a cargo of gasoil was shipped on board the Sagona at Milazzo in Sicily. The ship's master signed and issued a bill of lading to the shippers. It provided for delivery "to order". That meant, to order of the shippers or any succeeding holder of the bill of lading with appropriate endorsements.

On July 10, on behalf of the charterers of the vessel, a radio-telegram was sent to the master ordering delivery of the cargo to Mabanafi GmbH.

The vessel berthed at the discharge port, Nordenham, early on July 18. She discharged at the Midgard wharf, where Mabanafi had a tank installation.

Before long it was discovered that Mabanafi was not entitled to receive the cargo. It had contracted to buy it from others who were parties to a string of contracts, beginning with the shippers, but it had not acquired a bill of lading. The bills of lading were held up at an Italian bank.

The shippers sued Mabanafi and various other parties concerned in the purchase of the cargo. They recovered judgment, but while appeal was pending a compromise agreement was made under which they were paid \$3.6m.

Any liability of the shipowners for misdelivery of the gasoil had, therefore, disappeared; but they had suffered considerable loss while the vessel was under arrest. In the present action they sought to recover those losses from the charterers.

Under the charterparty, which was in the BEEFEE Time 2 form, the owners were bound to obey the charterers' orders through their master and crew, subject to certain limitations. They were not bound to obey an order to deliver the cargo to one receiver if, in fact, another was entitled to delivery.

In the case of a bill of lading signed on behalf of shipowners the terms and exceptions of the contract might be different from those in the charterparty. The bill of lading would bind the shipowner to deliver to the order of the shipper or a named consignee, whereas the time

charter obliged him to deliver in accordance with the orders and directions of the charterer.

The probability of an owner being bound by two separate and inconsistent contracts gave rise to the provision in clause 30 of the charterparty that "...charterers hereby indemnify owners against all liabilities that may arise from the signing of bills of lading in accordance with the directions of charterers or their agents..."

In general where there was a time charter, the ship's agent was the agent of the charterer. In the present case, the charterers had appointed the agent at Nordenham and, in accordance with normal practice, he made arrangements with pilots, tugs, and customs authorities. He was present when the vessel berthed, and he went on board.

In his conversation with the master as to time of commencement of discharge there was no mention of a bill of lading. Everything that was said and done by him in relation to the arrival of the vessel at Nordenham and the commencement of discharge, was said or done by him as part of the ordinary business of a ship in port, and therefore on behalf of the charterers.

The owners said that he should have insisted on seeing an original bill of lading before discharging commenced, and should at least have informed the master that none

was available when Mabanafi could not produce one.

The evidence as to universal practice, however, showed that there was no general recognition of a need for anybody, whether master or agent, to check the bill of lading before discharge began.

Mr Johnson argued that it was the charterers' responsibility to ensure that the persons whom they designated as receivers were, in fact, entitled to receive the cargo.

No practice existed which was inconsistent with that argument; but nor was there any express or implied term that the charterers or their agent should undertake such a duty.

Mr Johnson's alternative ground was based on the owners' right to indemnity.

In *Sinathorne Steamship (1934) 49 Ll LR 306, 311*, Mr Justice Roche held that shipowners were entitled to indemnity for liability incurred because agents had procured the master to deliver without production of bills of lading. He preferred the view that after issue of a bill of lading it was not lawful to require the shipowner to deliver to anybody else; but, he said, where there was nothing to show that the agent's action "was something which was likely to excite the suspicion of the master," a master had a duty to sign the bill of lading tendered.

His Lordship agreed with the judge's reasoning. An order by the

charterer to deliver to the wrong party was not a lawful order under the charterparty, and was not an order which a shipowner was bound to obey.

The judge was upheld by the Court of Appeal (1934) 50 Ll LR 185 which applied the principle in *Dugdale (1895) LR 10 CP 196, 200* that "when an act has been done by the plaintiff under the express directions of the defendant which occasions an injury to ... a third person, if such an act is not apparently illegal in itself, but is done honestly and bona fide in compliance with the defendant's directions, he shall be bound to indemnify the plaintiff against the consequences thereof."

The charterers ordered the owner to deliver the cargo to Mabanafi by their radio-telegram of July 10, and to a lesser extent by the words and conduct of their agent at Nordenham.

The radio telegram made no mention of delivery without production of a bill of lading, but the practice and course of a dealing was such that the order could fairly be construed as reading "deliver to Mabanafi, taking such precautions in relation to the bill of lading as are usually taken by masters, and as have been taken hitherto during this charter party". The master did comply with that order.

The order was one which the owners, through their master were

not bound to obey, nor the charterers entitled to give.

But the act which it required was not "manifestly illegal in itself". Nor was it "something which was likely to excite the suspicion of the master," or ought to have caused him to refuse to act.

A master was always justified in refusing to comply with an order to deliver to a person who was not entitled to the cargo; but it was another question whether owners were entitled to indemnity if he so delivered when there was nothing to arouse his suspicion.

The point was one of causation. The question was whether, when the charterers ordered delivery to Mabanafi, that order caused the owners' loss, or whether the master's conduct in obeying it without further enquiry was a *novus actus interveniens*.

As the master followed his normal practice and that of other masters, and as there was no circumstance to arouse his suspicion, the loss was caused by the charterers' order.

The owners were entitled to be indemnified.

For the shipowners: David Johnson QC, Martin Moore-Bick and Rhonda Boker (Sinclair Roche & Temperley).

For the charterers: Michael Dean QC and V. Veeder (Holman Fenwick & Willan).

By Rachel Davies
Barrister

Cruise 'confusion' denied by Heseltine

BY NOR OWEN

MR MICHAEL HESELTINE, the Defence Secretary, vigorously denied in the House of Commons last night claims by Labour MPs that the Government had received little advance warning of the arrival of U.S. cruise nuclear missiles in Britain yesterday.

He said that the timing of the arrival of the weapons had been initiated by Britain. He dismissed suggestions that the curtailment of his visit, earlier in the day, to a new airborne division at Aldershot indicated a degree of surprise and confusion in Whitehall.

Mr John Silkin, Labour's shadow Defence Minister, argued that Mr Heseltine had been forced to beat a hasty retreat from Aldershot because it was "an American decision" which had determined when the first cruise missiles would arrive at their base at Greenham Common in Berkshire.

To Labour cheers, he demanded: "Does the Secretary of State really know what is actually happening?"

If so, Mr Silkin said, why had it been necessary for Mr Heseltine to be called back to London so that he could honour his earlier undertaking to inform MPs at the first opportunity of the arrival of the first cruise missiles?

Mr Silkin re-opened the controversy over the instructions which would be given to British forces if U.S. personnel sought to deploy the missiles in off-base locations without the Prime Minister's approval.

Mr Heseltine was adamant that there was no question of cruise missiles being moved off the Greenham Common base by U.S. personnel without such approval.

He emphasised that Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, had received a categorical undertaking to this effect from President Ronald Reagan.

Mr Heseltine, ignoring Labour references to the lack of adequate consultation which preceded the U.S.-led invasion of Grenada, said the deployment of the missiles outside the base would not happen "unless the British are as aware of what is happening as is necessary in the circumstances."

The Defence Secretary said he had been aware of the date and timing of the missiles' arrival "at every appropriate moment." But he refused, despite repeated pressure from Labour MPs, to say exactly when he was first informed.



Heseltine: 'Britain initiated timing'

Mr Heseltine explained that the decision to be taken over his Aldershot visit was whether to abandon it or cut it short. There was derisive laughter from the Labour benches when he said: "In view of the commitment I felt to the large number of people at Aldershot looking forward to my visit I thought it more appropriate to honour that obligation."

Mr Michael Foot, the former Labour Leader, again maintained that the cruise missiles were effectively under the sole control of the President of the U.S. because, as Commander-in-Chief of all U.S. forces, he was not permitted by the U.S. Constitution to "divest himself of that control without congressional approval."

Mr Heseltine retorted that Mr Foot had been a member of a government which had accepted similar assurances to those which the Prime Minister had obtained from President Reagan when the same consideration must have applied.

In a clash with Dr David Owen, leader of the Social Democratic Party, Mr Heseltine confirmed that the Government had earlier decided not to take advantage of a U.S. offer which would have made it possible for Britain to have a "dual key" system ensuring joint control over the launch of cruise missiles.

He recalled that the cost would have amounted to £1bn and that the Government had decided it was not justifiable expenditure in view of the other demands on the defence budget.

FT starts computer software publishing

FINANCIAL TIMES REPORTER

THE FINANCIAL TIMES made its first move into publishing computer software with the launch yesterday of a financial modelling program which can run on the more powerful personal computers.

The new program, FT Moneywise, is a co-operative effort between the FT and Moneywise Software, a small independent computer software company set up a year ago.

The move is part of the FT's continuing diversification into new areas of business information services. Last month the FT and IFT announced the establishment of International Financial Intelligence Service (IFIS), an electronic business news service.

Mr Joe Hooley, chief executive of Financial Times Business Enterprises, said yesterday: "The FT group is in the information business; essentially we are a communications company. As well as being a

major newspaper and magazine publisher, we are also the biggest European publisher of newsletters. We are also very active in electronic publishing in the form of 'on-line' information services. This has brought home to us the importance of good software."

The FT claims that the new programme is 10 times faster than competitive products and that it is particularly easy to use by non-computer specialists. The programme costs £395 (plus VAT) and will be available on the IBM Personal Computer and XT, and the Sirius (Victor) microcomputer from January next year. It will also become available in other 16-bit personal computers.

The FT intends to publish other computer software programs in future. In addition to programs from Moneywise Software, it will also consider those developed by other companies.

PROGRESSIVE IMAGINATION.



FOR PUSHING BACK THE FRONTIERS.

It takes imagination for a company to progress - imagination and money. At Fiat, our current budget for improving and renewing our product ranges tops 1,300 billion Lire - an ever increasing commitment of men and machines to the fruits of progress.

Above all there is a new sense of confidence born of greater commitment to excellence: a revival of the values of efficiency and cooperation that have been a feature of Fiat's past.

Such are the new conditions that are creating our cars, our industrial vehicles, agricultural equipment and trains - a whole range of up-to-the-minute products.

Now, as markets become ever more demanding, Fiat is revitalising all areas of its business to meet the challenge.

GROUP FIAT

A progressive enterprise at work.

UK COMPANY NEWS

Importers gain ground in the battle of the coaches

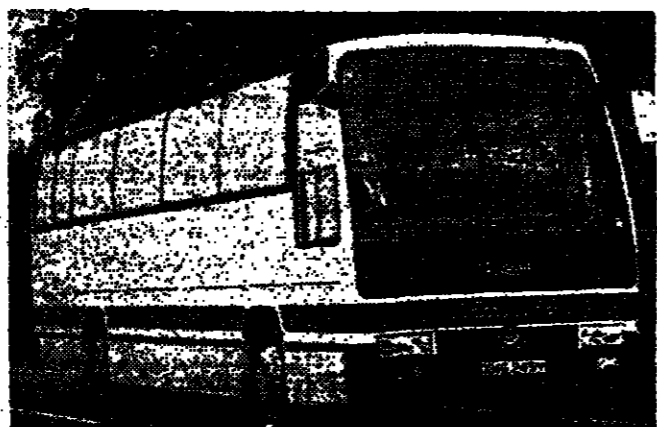
By Hazel Duffy, Transport Correspondent

BRITAIN'S coachbuilders are struggling to stem the rising tide of coaches being imported from the Continent. In a declining market, imports could be as high as 40 per cent this year. Four years ago, they were only 3 per cent.

The repeat of a trend which was seen first in the car industry, and then the commercial vehicle industry, has come about mainly for two reasons. First, the British industry was slow to appreciate that demand was changing towards the more luxurious, high-performance vehicles that were already being supplied by continental coach manufacturers to markets where coach travel is over longer distances than in Britain. Second, continental manufacturers, seeing their traditional markets in decline, began selling more aggressively in the largely untapped British market.

Mr Ken Maciver, managing director of Leyland Bus, admits: "We were behind the times. We had not realised the strength of shift from the seaside type of coach operation to the sophisticated coach that is required today."

Leyland launched its Tiger coach in response to the challenge early last year, following this up with the Royal Tiger



The Leyland Tiger, launched last year

visitors—operators and manufacturers—it is the looks and the latest in passenger comfort which attract most interest in this highly customer-conscious market.

Coach travel in Britain has undergone a remarkable change in the past few years. Once the poor relation to other means of travel, it has been transformed into an acceptable alternative to rail and car travel. This has led to coach operators switching to a heavier weight vehicle which can satisfy the more intensive use and higher speeds increasingly sought by operators.

Ford and Bedford are the major suppliers of lightweight chassis in the UK, while Bedford also has a midweight chassis and has plans to move into the heavyweight chassis sector. Ford, however, seems content to leave this increasingly competitive sector alone.

A new entrant into the coach industry or, rather, a re-entrant is Metro-Cammell Weymann. Its new Metroliner, in single, split and double deck models, was launched last spring. National Express will take delivery shortly of a fleet of Metroliners, including double deckers, while the Scottish Bus Group has been using two prototype double deckers this summer.

However the Royal Tiger, in sleek black livery, was attracting attention at the European coach rally held recently in Nice. The rally puts coaches through a number of technical tests, but for many of the

bodywork standards, will pave the way for Leyland's future in the UK and the projected launch into selected continental markets (the Tiger chassis has also been introduced in Australia). Leyland Bus has been through extensive rationalisation of its manufacturing facilities, recently closing the Bristol works, and is seeing the benefits coming through in productivity.

"I think we are competitive with the continentals on cost now," says Mr Maciver. "But it will not be safe to stop there." Somewhat ominously, he points to the fact that the Japanese have not yet made much impact in the bus industry, but "somebody will come in."

Operators and manufacturers in the coach business are under intense competitive pressures. The changes in the market have been customer-led, and the British manufacturers have been late in adapting their products to what the market wants. Tour operators will now frequently specify a certain type of coach in order to satisfy the comforts of their customers, something almost unheard of a few years ago.

The economics of the growth in coach travel are based on tight margins and high loadings. This means that operators must use increasingly high-cost

British coachmakers have adapted late to the new market

vehicles—the Royal Tiger, for instance, sells for about £80,000 and the double-deck Metroliner for about £125,000—more and more intensively.

At a time when Continental markets have fallen by 4-7 per cent in the past year, and overcapacity is substantial, British manufacturers can expect to find themselves under ever-increasing pressure. The coach market is turning out to be as receptive to imports as the markets for cars and commercial vehicles. Britain's coach manufacturers know that, once established, imports are very hard to dislodge.

RENAULT Alliance

This announcement appears as a matter of record only

New Issue

13th October, 1983



EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK

¥20,000,000,000

7.8% Japanese Yen Bonds due 1993
Eighth Series

Yamaichi Securities Company, Limited

The Nikko Securities Co., Ltd. Daiwa Securities Co. Ltd. The Nomura Securities Co., Ltd.

The Nippon Kangyo Kakumaru Securities Co., Ltd.

New Japan Securities Co., Ltd.

Sanyo Securities Co., Ltd.

Wako Securities Co., Ltd.

Kokusai Securities Co., Ltd.

Merrill Lynch Securities Company
Tokyo BranchSalomon Brothers Asia Limited
Tokyo Branch

Dai-ichi Securities Co., Ltd.

Okasan Securities Co., Ltd.

Osakaya Securities Co., Ltd.

Tokyo Securities Co., Ltd.

Yamatane Securities Co., Ltd.

Bache Securities (Japan) Ltd.
Tokyo BranchSmith Barney, Harris Upham International Incorporated
Tokyo Branch

Koyanagi Securities Co., Ltd.

Marusan Securities Co., Ltd.

Mito Securities Co., Ltd.

Toyo Securities Co., Ltd.

Vickers da Costa Ltd.
Tokyo Branch

The Chiyoda Securities Co., Ltd.

Hinode Securities Co., Ltd.

Ichiyoshi Securities Co., Ltd.

Maruman Securities Co., Ltd.

National Securities Co., Ltd.

Nichiei Securities Co., Ltd.

The Toko Securities Co., Ltd.

The Izumi Securities Co., Ltd.

The Kaisei Securities Co., Ltd.

Kosei Securities Co., Ltd.

Meiko Securities Co., Ltd.

Naigai Securities Co., Ltd.

Towa Securities Co., Ltd.

Utsumiya Securities Co., Ltd.

Takagi Securities Co., Ltd.

Daifuku Securities Co., Ltd.

Daito Securities Co., Ltd.

The Nippon Securities Co., Ltd.

Okatoku Securities Co., Ltd.

Jardine Fleming (Securities) Ltd.
Tokyo Branch

Chuo Securities Co., Ltd.

Kidder, Peabody & Co. Incorporated
Tokyo Branch

Amro International Limited

Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations

Crédit Commercial de France

Crédit Lyonnais

Credit Suisse First Boston Limited

Kleinwort, Benson Limited

Kredietbank S.A. Luxembourgaise

Morgan Stanley International

Swiss Bank Corporation International Limited

S.G. Warburg & Co. Ltd.

THE GRAND SLAM

What does it take for a corporation to be responsive to new business opportunities? It takes technological efficiency. Managerial quality. Foresight. A will to learn.

And it takes business sense. Renault's business sense manifests itself in its bold move in the American market, symbolized by the Renault 9/Alliance.

The car that is manufactured in Europe by Renault. And in the United States, by its ally, the American Motors Corporation.

Blending the best features from Europe and America, the car is a success on both sides of the Atlantic. It was voted Car of the Year 1983 in Europe and Car of the Year 1983 in the U.S.

The Renault 9/Alliance also demonstrates that international cross-fertilization and partnership can succeed.

This response to opportunity has enabled Renault, one of the world's largest car manufacturers, to supplement solid product ideas with an extensive marketing and production structure in the world's largest automotive market. That's business sense.

RENAULT
WE'RE HERE

BUSINESSES FOR SALE

Unique Business for sale as going concern

THE IRISH OIL & CAKE MILLS LIMITED
(IN RECEIVERSHIP)

The business, trading operations, premises, plant and machinery of Irish Oil & Cake Mills at Drogheda, Co. Louth.

The operation is the major refiner of vegetable oil in Ireland and has a dominant market share. 42% of its raw material requirement is based on native Irish products.

All enquiries, including requests for a detailed brochure, should be addressed to John Donnelly, Receiver and Manager of Irish Oil & Cake Mills at:

Deloitte Haskins & Sells,
Suite 3, Fitzwilliam House,
Wilton Place,
Dublin 2.
Telex: 25839
Telephone: 785153

Deloitte Haskins & Sells

Management Consultants
Fitzwilliam House, Wilton Place, Dublin 2.

Precision Toolmakers and Die-Castings Northampton

The Joint Receivers and Managers of Corgi Engineering Limited wish to offer for sale the business and business assets of the company.

The company operates from modern leasehold premises of approximately 30,000 square feet in Northampton within easy reach of the M1 motorway, employing a workforce of approximately 140.

The activities of the company comprise the design and manufacture of moulds and tools for the production of zinc die-castings and plastic injection mouldings used in the motor, telecommunications, electrical and toy making industries. Annual turnover is approximately £2M p.a.

Further information may be obtained from:

A. J. Barrett Esq. FCA,
Telephone: (01) 236 6500
or Telex: 887880.

Deloitte Haskins & Sells

128 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4P 4JX

OPPORTUNITY IN ENERGY AND RELATED INDUSTRIES

LEADING PROCESS EQUIPMENT COMPANY FOR SALE AS GOING CONCERN

Adamson & Hatchett—one of the world's leading heavy engineering companies, designing and fabricating a wide range of equipment for the oil, gas and petro-chemical industries—is for sale as a going concern.

The 41-acre site near Manchester has 341,000 sq ft of factory space, with highly skilled workforce, excellent access, craneage, office and canteen facilities.

This is an excellent opportunity to acquire a leader in its field, available as a result of a group's rationalisation programme.

Write in confidence to:

The Chief Executive, Acrow plc
8 South Wharf Road, London, W2 1PB.
Telex: 21868.

Toy Manufacturers Swansea, West Glamorgan, UK.

The Joint Receivers and Managers of the Mettoy Company plc wish to sell the business and the business assets of the company.

The company operates from a freehold factory site of approximately 220,000 sq ft, situated on the outskirts of Swansea close to the M4 motorway.

The company manufactures the world famous "Corgi" range of models and also runs a growing contract business. Annual turnover is approximately £10m p.a.

Further information may be obtained from:

R. A. Smart Esq. FCA,
Telephone: (0222) 44191
or Telex: 498109.

Deloitte Haskins & Sells

Tudor House, 16 Cathedral Road, Cardiff CF1 6PW

Richards of Sheffield Ltd Joseph Rodgers & Sons Ltd

The receivers of the above-named Companies have available for sale the stocks, tooling, trade marks and goodwill of the businesses of pocket knife and scissor manufacturers as a going concern.

Arrangements may also be negotiated for acquisition of the plant.

Cork Gully

Please contact:
A.J. Wood,
14 Cross Burgess Street,
Sheffield S1 1CA.
Tel: (0742) 29141

ROBOTICS

As the result of a strategic reappraisal, a U.K. company has for sale a robotics activity based upon a fully-developed industrial robot and controller.

Principals only please apply to:
Box G9270, Financial Times
10 Cannon Street, London EC4P 4BY

POLY BAG AND FILM EXTRUSION PLANT

Well established, quality poly bag film and printing business in the South of England. Long leasehold property, 18,000 sq. ft. with large car park, at very low rent. Twenty-five employees; modern plant. Turnover in excess of one million with existing plant. Turnover could reach two million.

PRICE: £250,000. PRINCIPALS ONLY
Write Box G9265, Financial Times, 10 Cannon Street, London, EC4P 4BY

SCOTTISH COMPANY WILL SELL OR AMALGAMATE ITS STEEL STOCKHOLDING BUSINESS

Medium size - general steels - substantial land craneage and warehousing

Interested parties should reply in confidence to:

Box G9249, Financial Times
10 Cannon Street, London EC4P 4BY

FOR SALE

Old established

PLASTIC INJECTION

MOULDING COMPANY

Modern compact factory with 70,000 sq ft FREEHOLD property. Turnover approx. £500,000 p.a. Own PRODUCTS & CUSTOM MOULDINGS. Owner wishes to retire. Great scope for expansion by energetic purchaser with management skill. Principals only.

For further details contact:

Box G9268, Financial Times,
10 Cannon Street, EC4P 4BY

EAST MIDLANDS

SHEET METAL WORK

COMPANY

Established and currently in profit, sheet metal working company ripe for expansion, employing thirty people, having a turnover of £500,000 and suppliers to both UK and EEC. Part of group, owners wishing to concentrate on own product line within remainder of group.

Write Box G9263, Financial Times
10 Cannon Street, London EC4P 4BY

FOR SALE

Established jewellery

wholesaling company

with substantial losses

for corporation tax purposes.

Write Box G9276
Financial Times
10 Cannon Street
London EC4P 4BY

LONDON sheet foil film company with a turnover of £1.5 million wishes to sell or merge. Write Box G9274, Financial Times, 10 Cannon Street, London EC4P 4BY.

BUSINESS AND ASSETS FOR SALE PHOTOMARKETS (UK) LTD

Offers are invited for the business and assets of this nationally known chain of photographic retailers and wholesalers.

- Company managed retail outlets in 16 towns.
- Chain of 70 independent photographic dealers franchised as "Photomarkets".
- Chain of 30 home entertainment dealers franchised as "Leisurebase".
- Wholesale turnover £3.4 million; retail turnover £2.1 million.
- Substantial stocks of photographic equipment.

Further information from the Receiver: A.R. Houghton

Touche Ross & Co.

P.O. Box 137, Hill House, 1 Little New Street,
London EC4A 3TR. Tel: 01-353 8011

HYMAC LIMITED (IN RECEIVERSHIP)

The business and assets are for sale of the above company, a well known manufacturer of hydraulic excavators.

- turnover approximately £17 million
- workforce approximately 500
- 36 acre freehold site at Rhymer, S. Wales

Enquiries to: P. R. C. Dwyer Esq. FCA, Price Waterhouse,
12 St. Andrew's Place, Birmingham, B3 2JA.
Telephone: (021) 44455 Telex: 497945

Price Waterhouse

THE DUDLEY FOUNDRY COMPANY

Receiver seeks urgent sale of company order book and goodwill of this old-established Midlands-based iron foundry.

Enquiries to: P. R. C. Dwyer Esq. FCA, Price Waterhouse,
12 St. Andrew's Place, Birmingham, B3 2JA.
Telephone: (021) 44455 Telex: 497945

Price Waterhouse

ENGINEERING GROUP

is seeking to acquire a majority interest in an Engineering of Manufacturing Company with its own product or special process. Of particular interest will be companies with a product or process which has not been fully exploited due to lack of marketing or finance. Turnaround situations could be of interest.

Please write in confidence to Box G9244, Financial Times
10 Cannon Street, London EC4P 4BY

Preference will be given to Principals.

FOR SALE

WELDING & STEEL

FABRICATING BUSINESS

Home Counties

Estimated Turnover £250,000 with good profit forecast. Modern 1,200 sq. ft. Freehold Property. Excellent Plant and Machinery. Owners retiring. For further details contact:

C. J. C. Dwyer
50/51 High Holborn
London WC1V 6ES
Tel: 01-405 8411

HENRY BUTCHER

LEOPOLD FARMER

FREEHOLD OFFICE BUILDING WOKING 5,000sq.ft.

Newly refurbished

Large Private Car Park

All enquiries

Write Box G9273, Financial Times,
10 Cannon St., London EC4P 4BY

Thornton Baker

16

FOR SALE

CONCRETE PRODUCTS BUSINESS

Small developing business operating in Cotswolds area for sale engaged in manufacture and marketing of vibrated concrete products, mainly paving slabs of various colours, sizes and textures. Modern semi-automated production line recently introduced, but current sales of £150,000 need to be expanded to reach good profitability. (Existing output capacity is approximately £450,000.) Ideal for somebody with selling experience or company which can introduce additional sales volume. Factory area 1150 sq ft plus half acre yard on 80 year ground rent of £1,800. Assets, trade name and good will for sale for £100,000 o.n.o.

Reply to:

PETER EDWARDS & COMPANY
Chartered Accountants
50 Market Square, Witney, Oxon OX8 6AG

PLASTIC MOULDING COMPANY

FOR SALE

T/O £1.4m p.a.

Established business engaged in Injection Moulding and PVC Blowing.

Modern fully equipped Works - Home Counties

Capacity up to 12.5 oz and 5 litre

including pattern design and toolmaking. Good order book.

Full details from Ref: MKH

EDWARDS & SYMONDS

56/62 Wilton Road, London SW1V 1DH

01-834 8454 Telex: 8954348

Precision Mouldmakers Southampton

The Joint Receivers and Managers of Baldery & Sons Limited wish to offer for sale the business and business assets of the company.

The company operates from modern leasehold premises of approximately 2,500 sq ft. on the Chandler's Ford Industrial Estate near Southampton within easy reach of the M27 motorway and the port of Southampton.

The company employs at present approximately 15 persons and its activities comprise the manufacture of moulds for the production of plastic and rubber mouldings used in the motor, electronics, pharmaceutical and toy-making industries. Annual turnover is approximately £220,000.

Further details may be obtained from:

R. B. Lock Esq. FCA,
Telephone: (0703) 34521
or Telex: 477354.

Deloitte Haskins & Sells

Whitbread House, 24 Bernard St., Southampton SO9 1OL

BEGBIES

A. P. Locke and D. R. F. Sapse as joint receivers for KITCHEN GALLERY LIMITED, specialists in the design and fitting of high quality individual kitchens from their three prime sites in prosperous Surrey:

LEATHERHEAD, CROYDON and WIMBLEDON offer for sale the business as a going concern. Turnover £1m (approx.). Current full order book.

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £50,000

All enquiries to:

CHRISTIE & CO.

32 Baker Street, London, W1

Tel: 01-486 4231. Quote Ref: LX 2456

FOR SALE

SWISS COMPANY WITH £800,000 CASH ASSETS

Incorporated in 1979, no liabilities, 2 years' tax free period available in respect of future trading. Price required £800,000. Reply to Comco Financial Services on 01-637 5065 or write to:

Box G9267, Financial Times
10 Cannon Street, London EC4P 4BY

SPECIALITY FISH PROCESSING COMPANY For Sale T/O £2m P/A-Rising Profitable

Reason—Corporate Policy

Write Box G9270, Financial Times
10 Cannon Street, EC4P 4BY

HOTELS AND LICENSED PREMISES

TO BE AUCTIONEED ON

28TH NOVEMBER 1983

'THE CAT AND CAPE'

DUBLIN 9

An important Freehold Freehouse on main airport road. Turnover IR£1m per annum (95% wet sales).

Illustrated details from:

DUBLIN OFFICE

Tel: 0001 684833

Due to Retirement

Valuable assets and lease of

theatrical supply company for

sale.

Box G9274, Financial Times
10 Cannon Street, EC4P 4BY

FINANCIAL TIMES
BRACKEN HOUSE, CANNON STREET, LONDON EC4A 3DF
Telegrams: Finantimo, London PS4. Telex: 6954871
Telephone: 01-248 8000

Tuesday November 15 1983

Opec's need for demand

THE ORGANISATION OF Petroleum Exporting Countries is trying once again to draw up a long-term strategy for prices, production and relations with the rest of the world. The mood and circumstances are very different from those which prevailed when it made its first attempt.

As it meets for the second session in London today, the reconstituted committee under Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi Arabian Oil Minister, will be deeply conscious of the changes in the global energy market and, in particular, the fall in demand for oil since Opec tried to redefine its objectives and formulate a coherent policy in the period from 1978 to 1980.

Inflation index

Although the start of that period was marked by weakening demand, there was soon to be a 130 per cent increase in prices. This was mainly the result of the Iranian revolution and of an acute fear amongst oil companies and consuming countries about a likely shortfall of supplies.

Opec's draft strategy envisaged the imposition of an indexation formula whereby oil prices would be adjusted according to inflation, exchange rate fluctuations and the rate of real growth of the industrialised countries. The long-term objective was that they would eventually approximate to the cost of alternative sources of energy while ensuring an orderly balance of supply and demand.

The policy formula was abandoned three years ago after the outbreak of war between Iraq and Iran. The price of Arabian Light was then \$29.95 per barrel, slightly higher than the present rate of \$29 established in the spring of 1983 after a \$5 cut; members have suffered a substantial loss of revenue per barrel in real terms. Moreover, recession, conservation and substitution, together with the build-up of supplies from other producers, have resulted in Opec's output falling by nearly half, from 31.7m barrels a day in 1979 to slightly under 17m b/d in the first nine months of 1983.

Opec has only itself to blame.

The pace of deregulation

THERE ARE few more devastating combinations than high technology and deregulation for precipitating rapid change in markets. Both are at work in the British financial sector, where the erosion of traditional boundaries between different types of financial institutions is proceeding at a rapid pace.

Yesterday's announcement that Mercury Securities, the parent of merchant bankers S. G. Warburg, is to take a stake in the stockjobbing firm of Akroyd and Smithers, is simply the latest (and one of the more thought-provoking) in a series of conglomerate financial moves, actual or potential, to have come out into the open. The way was cleared by Mr Cecil Parkinson, the former Trade Secretary, when he decided to exempt the Stock Exchange from the attention of the Office of Fair Trading and to lay down a deadline for the introduction of negotiated commissions on securities trading.

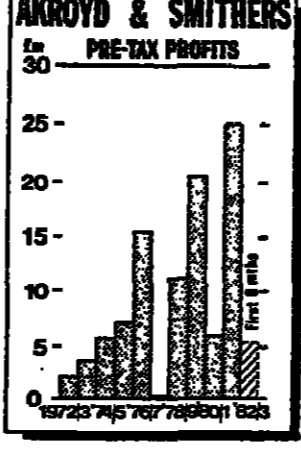
By now the City air is buzzing with talk of giant mergers, houses making markets in competition with New York and Tokyo, of financial supermarkets and discount brokerage, of a shift from a wholesale financial world back to the securities market, one in which the elusive animal, the private investor, will become the focus of renewed interest. Clearly we are going somewhere fast. But where — and with what consequences for regulation?

Scepticism

This is not the first time in recent memory that boundaries have begun to break down between different parts of the financial system. The last time that happened was in the early 1970s when it became fashionable to regard banking, insurance and property as logical bedfellows. The logic failed to stand up to the financial crisis in 1974. So there is good reason to confront today's futurology with caution.

The first ground for scepticism is that crucial features of the securities markets in Britain remain unchanged. A Stock Exchange survey of share ownership published yesterday indicated that the trend is still for individuals to reduce the proportion of their wealth held in ordinary shares by selling to investment institutions such as insurance companies and pension funds. At the same time stamp duty on share transactions remains in place, so keeping the costs of dealing in London artificially high.

LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE



A DEAL that the whole stock market has been waiting for was announced yesterday morning, when Mercury Securities, parent of one London's leading merchant banks S. G. Warburg declared its intention to buy a stake of 29.9 per cent in Akroyd and Smithers, one of the top stockjobbers on the London Stock Exchange.

In the four months since the Stock Exchange's out-of-court settlement of its dispute with the Government over restrictive practices, the City of London's lunch tables and bars have buzzed with gossip about who was going to do what with whom.

Bankers, brokers and financial services groups of various kinds admit to innumerable contacts and discussions about how they should prepare for the restructuring of the London stock market. Until now, however, there has been a shortage of hard facts and firm decisions.

Even the linking of the broking firm of Vickers de Costa last week with the American banking giant Citicorp failed to make a fundamental impression. The bulk of Vickers' business is in foreign securities, so the deal with Citicorp will only have a slight impact on the London market.

Now, however, the action has moved right to the centre of the stage. Akroyd and Smithers is arguably the Stock Exchange's top firm of stockjobbers, trading a broad spread of UK equities and famed for its spectacular dealing coups in the gilt-edged market.

S. G. Warburg is one of a handful of top British merchant banks, prominent in the Euro-markets and controlling something like 15 per cent of portfolio investments under discretionary and advisory management, but until now excluded from any direct presence in the domestic securities market in London.

With two top names getting together in this way, the pressure will be on other leading contenders in the financial markets to forge links quickly.

This is particularly true of the broking sector, where there are only five firms of any size. Wedd Durlacher is comparable in size to Akroyd (though it is a private partnership rather than a listed company) and the other two, Denny, Biscoe Bishop and Smith Bros (another listed company).

It is not wholly expected that Warburg should choose a jobber as its priority target. Jobbers are the specialist market makers of the Stock Exchange; they make prices in securities when approached by brokers, but under Stock Exchange rules are not permitted to deal with the public. At the same time, brokers are required to deal through jobbers.

It is this separation of function which is under threat following the Stock Exchange's agreement to important changes in its rule book. The system of fixed commissions on transactions in securities is to be phased out. Most stock market practitioners believe that when commissions are negotiable, irresistible pressures will build up within the London market for a blurring of the distinction between jobbers and brokers.

The early speculation following the Stock Exchange's deal with the Government was that the big market for a blurring move to pick up some of the leading broking firms. The logic was that the merchant banks would aim to build up their domestic distribution capability, so that they could

find buyers for large new issues or for big blocks of shares being disposed of by existing holders.

The teams of institutional salesmen at the major broking firms would be ideal for the purpose. As things stand, the merchant banks chafe at the need to hand on commissions and fees to brokers, on domestic issues, whereas on international securities such as Eurobonds they have direct access to large clients themselves.

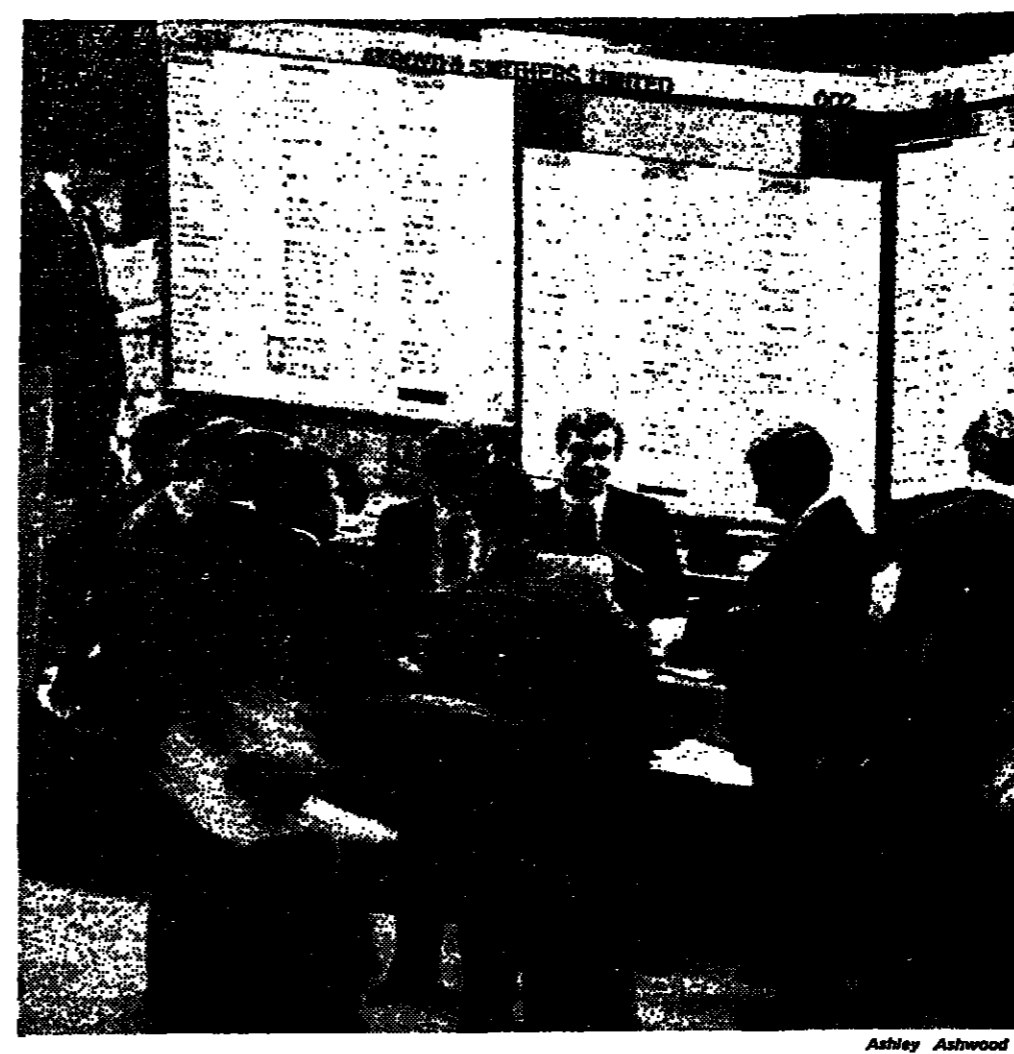
But it is now clear that merchant bankers are cautious about the idea of buying stakes in brokers (so far the investment has been "too risky", by a ruling of the Stock Exchange, though there are expectations that in due course this limit will be raised or abolished).

According to one leading merchant banker yesterday, the answer would be a bank (or a financial services group like Mercantile House or Exco) and one of the big, broadly spread institutional brokers. But such brokers are unlikely to be in any way restrained by a ruling of the Stock Exchange, though there are expectations that in due course this limit will be raised or abolished.

Yet their prospective parents have been concerned by the thought that not only has recent trading been unusually lucrative, but the future prospects during a structural shake-up in the London Stock Exchange are distinctly hazardous.

After "Mayday" on the New York Stock Exchange in 1975, when fixed commissions were abolished, the stock market went through an agonising period of readjustment. Substantial losses were incurred, until eventually a smaller number of surviving firms broke through to a renewed period of prosperity.

Many potential buyers of London brokers are probably reckoning that there will be cheaper opportunities to buy later on. In the meantime, they are also restrained by the thought that a broker linked to a particular merchant bank might lose the large volumes of business generated by the investment departments of merchant banking rivals.



An Akroyd and Smithers pitch on the floor of the London Stock Exchange.

Why Warburg is making a pitch for Akroyd

By Barry Riley, Financial Editor

connections made it very much of a special case.

While many brokers face the future with some trepidation, the jobbers are rather more strongly placed. Whatever the precise form of the Stock Exchange after the rewriting of the rule book, it is clear that there will be a continuing demand for market making skills.

At any rate, Warburg has decided to make its move in this direction, a step which should be seen in the context of the bank's ambitions in the international securities markets. Although Warburg has a high reputation in London, it hardly rates in New York following the collapse of its relationship with A. G. Becker, which last year was absorbed by the French group Paribas.

In the meantime Warburg has watched the growing international strength of the big U.S. investment banks such as Morgan Stanley, Goldman Sachs, First Boston and Salomon Bros.

Warburg has noted the strong link between a primary issue capability and a secondary market-making function. The view is that both activities prosper when operated together, but are inclined to struggle to make money on their own.

Warburg is therefore present-

ing the Akroyd deal as a way of grafting on a much bigger capacity for international secondary market making, pointing to areas like Eurobonds — where both companies are active, though on a basis which is said to be complementary — and the New York market.

On Wall Street, Akroyd and Smithers Inc is active in domestic risk arbitrage, traded options and mining research. But it is not exactly a front rank operation (last April, Akroyd bought the outstanding 45 per cent holding for just \$1.6m). As a base for challenging the might of New York's top investment banks it looks a little flimsy.

The view from Warburg is that big things can be built from small beginnings. But inevitably its rivals are going to question whether Akroyd really adds up to the right kind of strategic acquisition, when its domestic activities are so much greater than its international market links.

In any case, Warburg is looking itself into a circumscribed relationship over which it may have only limited control. For the moment it will be limited to a 29.9 per cent stake, and is committed to an arms length relationship. It will also need to retain the goodwill of

Akroyd's house if the link is to prove a lasting one.

Next year, however, changes in the rules of the Stock Exchange will permit Akroyd to set up international dealing subsidiaries in which Warburg could have stakes of 49.9 per cent.

Later on, too, there is the chance that Warburg could be permitted to take formal control of Akroyd — which logically must be the objective. But the timing of this cannot be controlled by Warburg and will be dependent on the tortuous internal politics of the Stock Exchange. The best that can be said is that Akroyd could now be a strong internal voice within the exchange for speeding up the liberalisation process.

What could set in favour of the Warburg-Akroyd strategy, however, is the rapid growth of cross-border ownership of equities trading in securities. Akroyd, for example, must be well placed to move into the secondary markets in UK equities like KCL and Glaxo in New York — in the form of American depositary receipts. These have sprung up both because of the greater ownership of such investments by Americans, and because of the scope for avoiding stamp duty charged on London transactions.

There remains the question of whether Warburg will still in due course need to build up its broking capacity in New York as well as London. The view at Warburg appears to be that only time will tell whether such moves are necessary; for the moment, the Akroyd deal stands up on its own merits.

But the deal will be comparatively expensive for Warburg. It is unlikely that a cost of much less than \$40m for the 29.9 per cent stake will emerge when the terms are announced (on Thursday, if formal Stock Exchange consent is received in time). Warburg's willingness to pay such a price suggests there could be a defensive motive.

Certainly there will be a degree of relief at the Bank of England that a pivotal stockjobbing firm of the London market is being firmly linked to a British banking group. Mr David Scholey, joint chairman of Warburg, is a director of the Bank of England, and was a leading contender at one stage for the governorship last year.

The Bank has seen two banking firms — Hoare Govett and now Vickers de Costa — become linked to U.S. banks, and there has been a fear that large sections of the London stock market would fall prey to the huge resources of the big American financial groups.

The Bank has made no secret of its willingness to encourage the formation of strong British-owned securities market groupings to stave off the threat of American domination. Several broking firms with firm offers on the table from U.S. banks are said to have been discouraged by the Bank from accepting.

As for Warburg, the defence of its own domestic market position must also be a key element in its planning. The British merchant banks are anxious that, before too many years have passed, the American banks will make an attempt to cut through the traditional structures and fat underwriting margins of the domestic new issue market.

The emerging partnership with Akroyd & Smithers may be a means for Warburg to strengthen its position in the international markets but it could also be a way of defending its own back door.

Men & Matters

Tugendhat's trial

Revenge was sweet yesterday for Gaston Thorn, the Luxembourgish who is president of the European Commission. Before some 300 journalists he forced an all-too-public examination of Christopher Tugendhat, Britain's commissioner for the European budget.

It was the worst day for Tugendhat, Brussels-watchers say, since the occasion in 1981 when he had to call in Mrs Thatcher's political muscle to keep his portfolio.

Tugendhat was quick last week to label commission proposals to sort out the perennial problem of the British budget as "trickery and cheating... cooking the books." They were not the sort of remarks that gave the impression of a united commission ceaselessly searching for an invigorated EEC — and most of Tugendhat's fellow commissioners took exception to his remarks.

In Brussels yesterday Thorn was giving one of his periodic pep talks about the need for all to pull together to make real the official vision of the EEC. And, he said, he would be carrying the message to national capitals during the next couple of weeks.

Then he was asked about the credibility of the commission following the Tugendhat comments. Would Tugendhat be going with Thorn?

The president's reply was a no-doubt save for the expressed hope that Tugendhat might like to join the French delegation. He was found, appeared shortly afterwards, and gave his apologies, not for any impious thoughts, but for the fact that his thoughts might possibly have impugned the honesty of his colleagues. That he regretted.

The longer the questioning about "trickery" went on the slower Tugendhat's speech became and the more obvious

was the discreet enjoyment of Thorn.

Tugendhat stonewalled. "What you would like me to do is enter into a public argument, enter into discussion of a whole lot of different circumstances."

Sounding like his president Tugendhat tried to silence his critics with a stirring EEC rallying call — "It is the intention of the commission to work in a united and constructive fashion to bring about a solution to problems which are very difficult indeed."

Banker bet

The financial world may be full of uncertainties — but I am taking bets at any odds that I know the answer which Jacques de Groot, executive director of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, will give to the question posed in the title of his speech next month to the Belgo-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce in London.

The question is: "Should debtors repay their debts?"

Split seams

The resignation yesterday of Georges Valbon, chairman of Charbonnages de France, the French equivalent of the National Coal Board, was not entirely unexpected.

Valbon, aged 59, was appointed chairman of the large and ailing state enterprise in February 1982, but was never more than a figurehead. And as a member of the French Communist Party's central committee, he has been increasingly disturbed by the prevailing Socialist strategies for the coal industry.

Since the Left came to power in France, Charbonnages has been managed by its president, Michel Hug, who switched seats from Electricite de France.

Hug's policies, in line with the Socialist Government's rigorous economic ideas, have sought to reduce French coal

Extel

SINGAPORE AND MALAYSIAN COMPANIES CARD SERVICE

- * Provides information on quoted companies in Singapore and Malaysia.
- * Each company has an annual card with updating news cards carrying later information.
- * Up to 5 years' financial information is provided, highlighted by some 20 key accounting ratios.
- * A history of earnings, dividends and prices is shown in graph form on the annual cards.
- * The annual subscription of £800 covers the complete service to date and weekly updating for one year.

Ask for further details and specimen cards — today!

Extel Statistical Services Ltd.
37-45 Paul St, London EC2A 4PB.
Phone: 01-253 3400. Telex: 2623687

Please forward details of Extel's Singapore & Malaysian service.

Name _____
Position _____
Firm etc. _____
Address _____
Telephone _____

Extel

Reg. in London No. 189904 Reg. Office: 37-45 Paul St, London EC2A 4PB

Observer

Letters to the Editor

Privatising British Telecom

From the Secretary, Hands Off Telephones Campaign, British Telecommunications Unions Committee.

Sir—Sir George Jefferson (November 11) suggests that the provisions of the BT Bill are a "draft licence" to adequately protect the customer in the manner suggested in BT's advertisements. It is our considered view that the protection is not adequate. Vague formulae like "RFLX" to limit charges for a period of five years are not good enough when BT's charges for the last 14 years have on average been increased less than the RFL. This has been possible due to increased productivity and new technology. The pace of introduction of new technology is due to increase radically over the next five years and with a consequential increase in productivity and decrease in costs.

It is reference to the defence issue to the powers of the Secretary of State is typical of a number of non-specific phrases in the Bill.

Defence is a matter of national importance and Parliament has a right to know how the change from public to private ownership of BT will affect our national security, and to decide whether the provisions are adequate.

For example, during the Falklands war the British Telecom cable ship Iris was drafted to the South Atlantic. There was no secret about this, it was reported in the Press. Is there any provision in the current Bill to require a private British Telecom to maintain its fleet of cable ships? Will it be possible for a private British Telecom on the basis of sound commercial judgments, to dispense with its cable ship fleet or even sell off that part of its enterprise to a shipping company or to foreign telecommunications administration?

As it stands we do not know, but Parliament and the nation are entitled to know. When is the Government going to tell us?

Alan Chamberlain,
14-15, Bridgewater Square, EC2.

International trade in textiles

From the Managing Director, Central Confederation of the Textile Industry in the Federal Republic of Germany.

Sir—Mr Christian Tyler's article "Caught in the web of multi-fibre arrangement quotas" October 28 was, in my view, somewhat too glib as that I could let it pass by without comment.

Seen from the perspective of a single firm selling shirts from a developing country, the MFA jargon—bewildering as it admittedly is—might indeed be enough to dampen the spirits of even the most dynamic exporter.

But to do justice to the external trade situation in which West Germany and the EEC currently are, it is surely more appropriate to take a broader view. In this vein, textile and clothing imports from third countries are rather like the famous last straw that breaks the camel's back. Thus, West Germany alone—enterprise on an absolute as well as per capita basis—the largest importer of textile and clothing

mentioned in the article, whereby textile exports from Pakistan are unduly discriminated against as they do not compete with the quality in industrialised countries, is too simplistic. It is surely no news that Pakistan is not the only developing country exporting textiles to the EEC and that, taken together, textile exports from third countries are inundating the EEC market and most certainly also compete with similar quality there. These exports have been a direct cause of the massive structural adjustment measures that have been already mentioned. Thus, the reduction in employment in the textile sector due to rationalisation measures leading to increasingly capital-intensive production methods—often claimed to be the main reason for the loss of jobs—was, rather, merely an indirect effect of these large-scale textile exports to the EEC.

Furthermore, the MFA must be seen as an instrument granting a certain amount of blanket protection for the textile

Offices and rates in London

From the Greater London Council Member for Hendon, North.

Sir—In Robin Pankley's account (November 9) of the Labour Greater London Council's so-called "Job creation campaign" reference was made to a long, closely-argued report submitted to the last GLC meeting.

The report was certainly long. Its argument, though, was not fallacious. For example, it ignored evidence from the GLC's own economic policy group which showed that business rates in inner London can be equivalent to 80 per cent or more of the total rent plus rates office occupation cost. Inner London boroughs cited by economic policy group are Lambeth, Southwark, Tower Hamlets and Islington. In outer London boroughs such as Croydon, Barnet or Ealing the rate percentage falls to 30 per cent.

The rent/rates ratio is undoubtedly a factor in the decision made by many companies to move their offices from inner to outer London. Rates to that extent are a voluntary tax. So should rents be. Companies who rent office accommodation

should have the choice of a free market. The present GLC, however, is determined to reduce the amount of office accommodation because that will have the effect of driving down office rents in the capital. The Labour GLC is blinded by its prejudices against business ratepayers so that it is unable to see the impact on employment of its own policies.

As for the claim that the GLC through the Greater London Enterprise Board has created or preserved 1,200 jobs, I wish to make a point here. Pressing for an itemised list of where these 1,200 jobs came from. So far, such a list has not been provided, either by the GLC or by the Greater London Enterprise Board.

Bryan Cassidy
(Opposition Spokesman on Industry and Employment),
County Hall, SE1



goods in the world, including textile and clothing imports from the developing countries (more than the U.S.).

In 1981 the Federal Republic of Germany imported textiles and clothing worth \$12.6bn. The West German import quota for textiles and clothing is at present approximately 53 per cent (and for shirts alone 94 per cent).

Mr Tyler correctly points out that it is one of the MFA goals to give the declining textile industries of the industrialised nations time in which to restructure. And this, precisely, has been done. From 1970 to 1982 the number of employees in the West German textile industry (excluding clothing) decreased from 500,000 to 240,000 ie, by more than half. During the same period, every third enterprise had to close, leaving about 1,500 from 2,400 in 1970. The development in the clothing industry was very similar.

In this connection it is worth noting that there are not for the provisions of the MFA (and the extra quotas allotted for the Berlin Fair) it is very doubtful whether Pakistan would even be able to export the amount it does in view of the fierce competition in quality and price from other threshold and developing countries.

Thus, I feel the argument

Sour view of consultants

From the Executive Director, Management Consultants Association.

Sir—It would be interesting to know who or what gave Mr R. H. Holland his sour view of consultants, expressed in your column on November 8. His letter suggests that he has little direct experience of management consultants. Certainly his knowledge cannot be recent. It might have been valid to talk of a management consultancy craze 15 years ago (though a craze for a *bête noire* is at any time a curious concept), but nowadays the great majority of managements employ consultants with hard-headed discernment.

Members of the Management Consultants Association have worked for nearly all of the Top 100 companies and have a long-standing and continuing association with most of them. At the other end of the scale,

consultants during the last five years have been assisting manufacturing units employing 60-1,000 persons, who have availed themselves of the support of the Management Advisory Service. For its report on activities in 1982, the MAS assessed the results of the assistance given to a sample of the 3,000 firms to whom consultants had been assigned; 96 per cent of the companies assessed were satisfied and 75 per cent were well satisfied. Where results could be quantified, MAS stated that savings to firms over a three-year period were more than 12 times the cost to public funds; the MAS described the scheme as "an outstanding success."

There does seem to be some evidence to support a less sour view of consultants.

M. W. Hicks-Beach,
Executive Director,
29-34 Cromwell Place, SW7.

No nationalisation in Greece

From the Greek Ambassador.

Sir—In a piece entitled "Greek row over threat of state takeover" on October 4, your Athens correspondent consistently refers to the "nationalisation" of the Hellenic General Cement Company.

What in fact actually happened is that far from the government "nationalising" the company, its board of directors decided to resign following serious fraud charges tabled against them in court. The majority shareholders then

appointed a new board and placed a representative of the largest shareholders in the National Bank of Greece, which owns 41 per cent of total shares—as its new chairman.

Surely your correspondent cannot persist in arguing that such action amounts to a government takeover rather than to standard application of long-standing and internationally applicable company law.

Nikos Kyriazidis,
Ambassador,
16 Holland Park, W11

Taxation of multinationals

From the Chairman, Unitary Tax Campaign.

Sir—The letter from Mr Kenneth Cory, controller of the State of California on tax avoidance by multinationals which you published on October 31 is an engaging example of seeking to divert readers' attention from the real issues.

Unitary taxation came into existence originally towards the end of the 19th century and was designed to allocate or apportion on some reasonably equitable basis the profits of railroads between the various states in which they operated so as to allow those states which taxed business profits to have some, albeit rough and ready, measure of the profit earned within their state. As such, although it may have been rather crude, it was an allocation and did not result in more than 100 per cent of the total profit being subject to tax. It has since become in practice an inequitable method of taxing profits earned outside the U.S.

Arm's-length pricing, on which Mr Cory pours such scorn, is one which both relies upon an economic principle of considerable standing (i.e., that of market value) and has proved acceptable to the vast majority of developed countries both in framing their domestic tax laws and in entering into double

taxation treaties with other countries. It would be disingenuous to suggest that sophisticated corporations would not seek properly to minimise their taxes. On the other hand, all are accustomed to arm's-length pricing and to the laws and procedures in force in many countries to ensure that this principle is followed. Specifically in the UK and the U.S. there are "arm's-length" rules in their domestic statutes (Section 485 of the Taxes Act, 1970, and Section 482 of the Internal Revenue Code respectively) and in the double taxation treaty (Article 25) there are procedures for the resolution of disputes (the so-called "competent authority" procedures) which effectively enable the respective revenue authorities to judge whether arm's-length prices are being charged and at the same time prevent double taxation which would otherwise occur were the different revenue authorities to hold different views of what is an arm's-length price. This principle and these procedures are also the policy of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and are contained within the OECD model tax treaty.

Mr Cory refers to unfairness and implies that the world-wide combined reporting (WWCR)

method of applying unitary taxation is unfair. The WWCR method in California uses the so-called "3 factor" approach. Under this method the Californian proportion of sales revenues, payroll costs and property values to the group totals is established and this proportion is used to allocate to California what it regards as its share of the world-wide profit. Aside from the lack of impartiality in the application of WWCR, this is about as crude an economic assumption as assuming that everyone in the world earns the same income. It takes no account of differences in remuneration scales, in productivity, in asset values or in product prices.

With this sort of simplistic approach, we can presumably dispose with sophisticated things like accounting systems, tax authorities and indeed governments. I understand California has given evidence that were it not to tax on WWCR it would lose revenue of approximately \$500m per annum. On the basis that California represents a little over 10 per cent of the U.S. GDP and that Californian tax rates are approximately one-fifth those of the Federal Government, this would imply (very broadly I admit) that something like \$500m per

annum of corporate profits are escaping federal taxation. I do not doubt that the IRS, along with every revenue authority in the world, believes it fails to tax all that falls to be taxed, but this, were it true, implies the IRS is thoroughly falling down on its job. From experience of the professionalism of IRS audits and other compliance procedure, I find it amusing. Surely the reality is that the vast majority of this \$500m is tax unaffordably and capriciously imposed on profits earned, not only outside California but outside the U.S. by tax payers who can reasonably claim to be the victims of taxation with representation.

Much has been made of the wishes of California and other states to retain their freedom to tax in whatever way they choose. This we are told is a freedom enshrined in the states rights provisions of the Constitution. Presumably with this freedom would go their preparedness to negotiate treaties both with other sovereign states and with their political subdivisions. Or would California prefer that the ordinary courtesies of international affairs, designed to provide symmetry in taxation are denied?

P. J. Welch,
6 Buckingham Place, SW1

Regenerating European industry

The self-help seventeen

By John Lloyd

EARLY NEXT year, 17 of Europe's leading industrialists will engineer a minor revolution or fall flat on their faces.

The group includes such commanding figures as Giovanni Agnelli of Fiat, John Harvey-Jones of ICL, Bernard Hanon of Renault, Dieter Spethmann of Thyssen and Pehr Gyllenhammar of Volvo.

Taken together, they employ the equivalent of a small nation and command the resources of a medium-sized one.

Their aim is to provide some independent dynamism to a foundering Europe by identifying a number of massive industrial projects—such as motorways, railways, bridges and even a Channel tunnel—and attempting to ensure they are undertaken.

They will also focus attention on a number of areas where common practices increasingly divide what should be a common market; and they will, if their actions are successful, pose a considerable challenge to the received post-war wisdom on government's role in advanced industrial societies.

The group has been brought together by Mr Pehr Gyllenhammar, the 48-year-old President of Volvo, its rationale and strategy have been developed and approved at three day-long meetings over the past eight months.

Gyllenhammar, aided by Mr Bo Ekman, one of his company's vice presidents, has structured the initiative that the group cannot pass itself off as merely another business pressure group or a top level grumbling club: the unravelling of its programme will be a major event.

The group springs from a common sense of malaise, composed of three main elements.

First, the belief that European governments, and the European Commission, had through market intervention and subsidies done enterprise more harm than good.

In a speech at a Harvard dinner last year, Mr Gyllenhammar said "companies do not go bankrupt the way they are declared in default. We talk about restructuring instead. We are postponing deaths. We are preventing new dynamic structures being created when others die. I think this is detrimental. We cannot abolish death."

THE GROUP is chaired by its founder, Mr Pehr Gyllenhammar, President of Volvo. Its members are all principal executives of their companies, though their titles vary. They are: Giovanni Agnelli, Fiat; Sir Peter Baxendell, Shell International (replaced last week by Ian MacGregor, National Coal Board); Carlo de Benedetti, Olivetti; Wisse Dekker, Philips; Kenneth Durham, Colver; Roger Fauroux, St Gobain; Bernard Hanon, Renault; John Harvey-Jones, ICI; Olivier Lecerf, Lafarge; Helmut Maucher, Nestlé; Hans Merkle, Bosch; Carl Nicolai, ASEA; Louis von Planta, Ciba Geigy; Anton Reihensperger, Wolf; Hans Selbig, Siemens; Dieter Spethmann, Thyssen.



Pehr Gyllenhammar: "There's a new lease of life in business to do something."

Second, the sense that the Common Market was becoming less common and less of a market.

"If you operate out of Europe," Mr Gyllenhammar said last week, "you realise the Common Market is still a dream; it does not quite exist. Not only does it not exist, but it is going backwards... if this deterioration is unchecked, it could lead to disintegration."

Mr Gyllenhammar spoke at the latest EEC ministerial meeting in Athens showed at best modest progress towards a solution of the EEC's budgetary and agricultural problems.

He could point to an internal market grown more rather than less rigid—a recent Commission study listed 66 national regulations designed to impede free trade.

Europe has run a constant trade deficit with its main trading partners in the U.S., Soviet Union and Japan; members remain locked in their national identities; disillusionment with the Common Market among businessmen is rife.

Third, the belief that Europe can provide neither sufficient capital nor sufficient economies of scale to allow its industry to compete on equal terms with that of the U.S. or Japan.

Fragmented and jealous, state subsidised industries in such sectors as telecommunications, electronics and power plant make incompatible products at prices uncompetitive with U.S. and Japanese equivalents. Research and development is underfunded and large, necessary projects deferred or ignored.

But Mr Gyllenhammar believes private business is now in a position to try to stop the rot and assist the causes of European unity and growth.

There's a new interest in business that we haven't seen for decades, and there's a new lease of life in business to do something," he says.

Mr Ekman is even more forthright. "I think we have an opportunity because of the disillusionment people feel against the welfare state and government's basic problem of unemployment. There is a trend now where people are looking for alternative solutions, and they are looking to the market economy."

Mr Gyllenhammar's obvious desire to do something about these problems has won attention from the EEC. Viscount Etienne Davignon, the Industry Commissioner, suggested to the Volvo chairman that he test the idea of forming a group with some others.

He called around his contacts and the group came together in the early months of this year.

electronic and power plant make incompatible products at prices uncompetitive with U.S. and Japanese equivalents. Research and development is underfunded and large, necessary projects deferred or ignored.

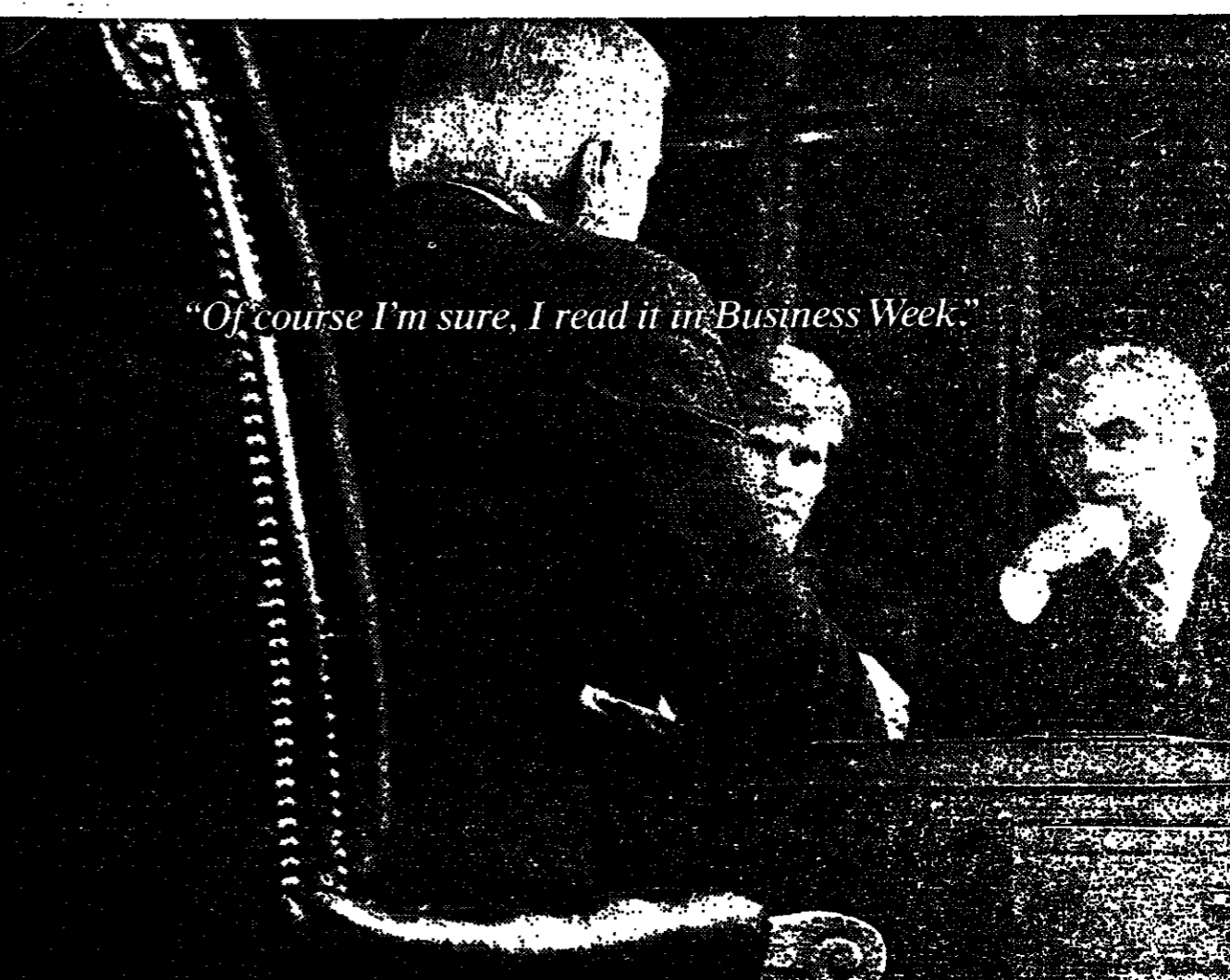
But Mr Gyllenhammar believes private business is now in a position to try to stop the rot and assist the causes of European unity and growth.

There's a new interest in business that we haven't seen for decades, and there's a new lease of life in business to do something," he says.

Mr Ekman is even more forthright. "I think we have an opportunity because of the disillusionment people feel against the welfare state and government's basic problem of unemployment. There is a trend now where people are looking for alternative solutions, and they are looking to the market economy."

Mr Gyllenhammar's obvious desire to do something about these problems has won attention from the EEC. Viscount Etienne Davignon, the Industry Commissioner, suggested to the Volvo chairman that he test the idea of forming a group with some others.

He called around his contacts and the group came together in the early months of this year.



"Of course I'm sure, I read it in Business Week."

The decisions of top management may be guided by intuition and imagination. But they must be based on timely and accurate information.

That's why Business Week is read so thoroughly and respected so highly by upper echelon executives all over the world.

Business Week has more full-time editors than any other business magazine.

Specialists in Finance, Economics, Marketing, Management, Technology. And more.

They do not merely report the facts—they analyze them. And provide a context of meaning that is unparalleled.

An environment like this adds importance and impact to your product, service, or corporate message.

That's the reason our advertisers have as much confidence in Business Week as our readers.

BusinessWeek
THE VOICE OF AUTHORITY

CANADIAN UTILITIES LIMITED
17½ DEBENTURES 1981 SERIES
NOTICE OF SINKING FUND REDEMPTION

NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, LIMITED, Trustee,
on behalf of Canadian Utilities Limited

J. HENRY SCHRODER BANK & TRUST COMPANY
as Indenture Trustee

UK COMPANY NEWS

Midterm profit for Seagram Distillers

THE continuing impact of the world-wide recession has hit the first half trading of Seagram Distillers. But greatly reduced interest charges and exchange losses have enabled the group to record a profit before tax of £3.5m in the period to July 31 1983, compared with a loss of £186,000 in corresponding six months.

Principal activities of the group, which is a subsidiary of The Seagram Company, are the production of Scotch whisky (Glenlivet, Glen Grant, Chivas), gin and port and sherry (Sandeman). Turnover for the half year fell by £6.47m to £32.86m, and the trading profit was cut 13 per cent to £9.67m (£11.07m) reflecting the effects of the recession.

The profit was struck after interest charges £5.64m (£7.55m) and exchange losses £335,000 (£3.69m). Tax requires £287,000 (£890,000) and minorities nil (£43,000). There is extraordinary credit of £1.37m (£5.05m), being losses incurred by the Mexican subsidiary on borrowings denominated in U.S. dollars. Earnings are shown at 11.2p (loss 2.5p) per share.

To rationalise excess production facilities within the UK, the company has announced its intention to close the rum maturation and bottling complex in Liverpool within the next 12 months. A provision for the costs associated with this closure will be made at the end of this year in the annual accounts.

With effect from February 1 1983, the group changed its accounting policy on stock valuation to include an appropriate element of fixed production overheads and maturation costs. The effect has resulted in a small increase in trading profits in the six months to July 31 1983.

BOARD MEETINGS

The following companies have notified dates of board meetings to the Stock Exchange. Such meetings are usually held for the purpose of considering dividends. Official indications are not available as to whether the dividends are interim or final and the subdivisions shown below are based mainly on last year's timetable.

TODAY

Interims: Cable and Wireless, Godfrey Davis, GEI International, H.A.T., International Signal and Control, Milbury, Stutchley, Young and Co's Brewery.

Finals: New Court Trust, Scottish National Trust, Somic, Union Steel Corporation of South Africa.

Murray Clydesdale assets rise 30p

FOR THE year ended September 30 1983 net asset value per 25p share of Murray Clydesdale Investment Trust jumped from an adjusted 67.3p to 87.5p. The dividend is effectively lifted to 1.4p net, against 1.3p, with a final payment of 1p.

Also announced is an interim distribution, for the current year, which is effectively unchanged at 0.4p.

Revenue for the 12 months amounted to £8.05m, compared with £8.16m, made up of £1.7m (£1.79m) franked and £4.31m (£3.37m) unfranked.

Interest on borrowed money increased from £1.86m to £2.6m and after expenses of £282,171 (£191,919) the pre-tax revenue figure came out slightly ahead at £3.16m, against £3.1m.

The directors say that a feature of the year has been the steady build-up of the portfolio of unlisted investments, which together with the stakes in Murray Technology Investments and Murray Electronics, now amount to 22 per cent of shareholders' funds.

Investments as at September 30 last represented 112.8 per cent of net assets (£23.7 per cent).

Tax for the year took £1.28m, compared with £1.1m, leaving net revenue at £1.8m (£1.89m).

Paterson Zochonis sees first half improvement in Nigeria

GROUP PROFITS of international soap, detergents, edible oils and refrigerators concern Paterson Zochonis give every indication of being higher in the current first half than in the comparable period last year, largely due to the performance of its Nigerian associates, Mr John Zochonis, chairman, says in his annual statement.

Unless there is a further deterioration in the Nigerian economy the group's manufacturing operations there should do well, even though the country's import and foreign exchange restrictions are expected to remain in force.

But Mr Zochonis comments that "the efficient and uninterrupted operation of the manufacturing industries in Nigeria requires the maintenance of adequate supplies. This, in turn, is dependent upon the ability of Nigeria to maintain remittances towards settlement of its import debts so as to enable new supplies to be financed, he says.

Thus, it is impossible to look further into the future without making over-riding reservations in respect of the factors affecting the Nigerian economy generally, including the possibility of currency realignments, he concludes.

Elsewhere, although the loss of export business to Nigeria, caused by the import and foreign exchange restrictions, will take time to make good, Clisson's operations in the UK should have a more settled year after the upheavals of the previous 12 months. Other subsidiaries should make reasonable progress.

As reported on October 19 the group did better than expected in the year to May 31 1983, with pre-tax profits of £26.87m, compared with £29.83m, earned on turnover of £271.35m (£310.97m). Stated earnings per share fell from 30.86p to 29.62p and the year's dividend was lifted from 4.5p to 4.75p net with a final of 3.42p (3.17p).

At year-end shareholders' funds had risen to £104.35m (£91.5m). Fixed assets were valued at £40.69m (£36.96m) and investments in associates were £29.43m (£28.95m). Net current assets came to £33.27m (£27.59m). During the year there was a net outflow of funds of £2.2m (£1.49m) and a rise in working capital of £4.55m (£12.07m).

Outwch ahead

The Outwch Investment Trust has shown improved figures for the half year ended September 30 1983, although increased tax has had its effect somewhat. Net asset value rose to 129.4p, compared with 115.3p six months earlier and with 94.6p on September 30 1982.

For the half year gross revenue came to £1.88m (£1.84m) and the profit to £1.82m (£1.68m) before tax of £630,000 (£552,000). Earnings are shown to be 1.77p (1.68p) and the net interim dividend is held at 0.75p.

Barclays S.A. bank to be restructured

Barclays National Bank, South Africa's largest banking group and Barclays Bank's biggest overseas operation, is to be restructured early next year following several senior management changes.

Although formal board approval has not yet been given, a bank spokesman confirmed that Mr Christopher Ball, 44, will take over next March as managing director of Barclays National from Mr Colin Waterson, who will reach retirement age.

Mr Ball is at present deputy managing director. His position will be filled by Mr Barry Swart, a South African who is currently president of Barclays Bank of New York.

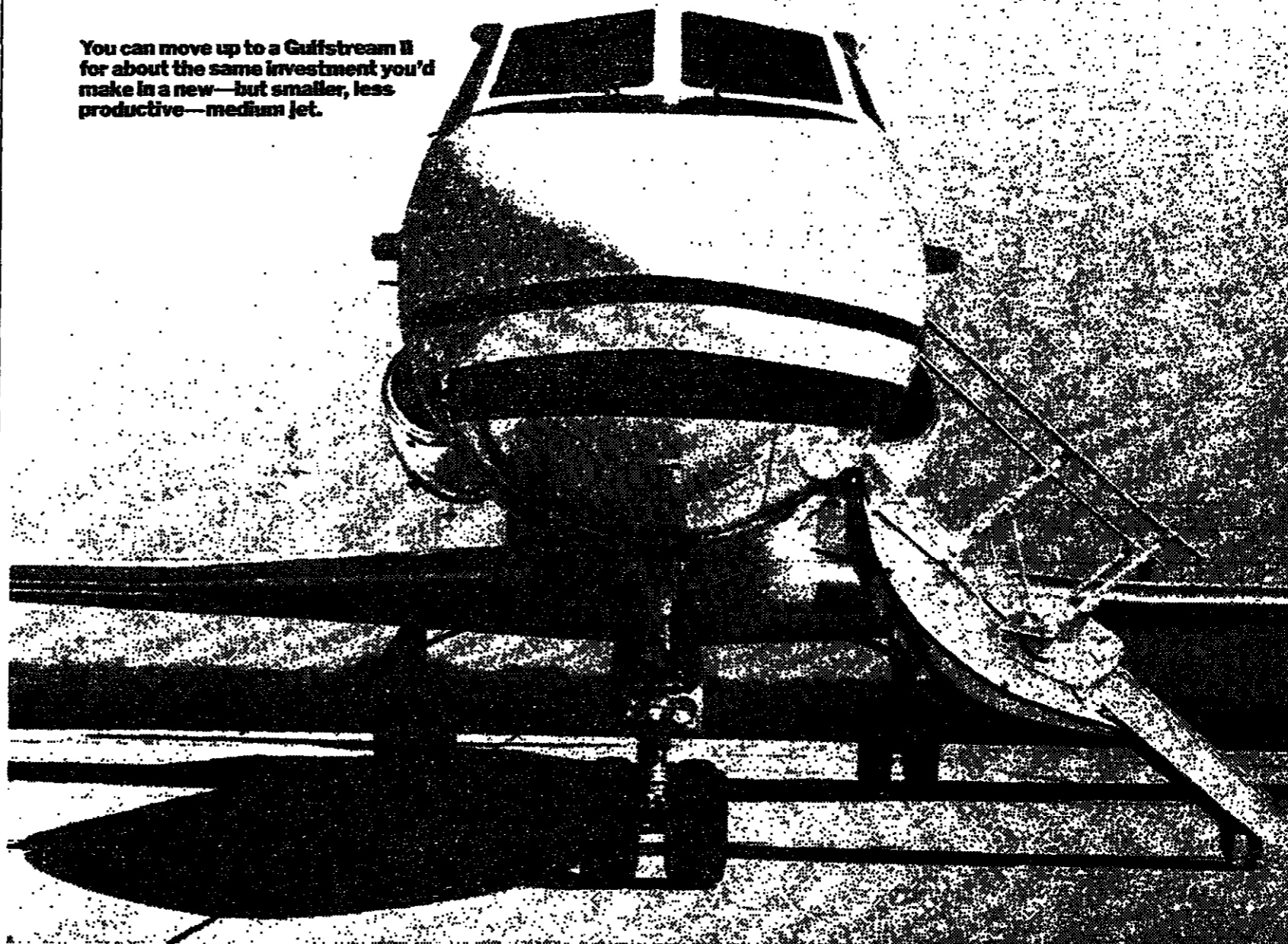
The bank will be restructured in three major divisions—corporate, retail and rural banking. Existing subsidiaries, such as the merchant banking, industrial finance and credit card arms, will remain in their present form for the time being but observers believe that in the longer term, these operations may be split up between the three new divisions. "There is a lot of change coming," the spokesman said.

Barclays National has appointed two senior general managers, for the first time, one of whom will take charge of the bank's personnel, finance and administration departments. The other will concentrate on retail banking, while Mr Swart will have responsibility for corporate business.

The proposed reorganisation is the latest move in Barclays National's efforts to shed its conservative image and tighten control of its sprawling network—the group has around 1,100 retail outlets and employs 24,000 people.

Moves to rejuvenate the group earlier this year were interrupted by the sudden resignation of the previous managing director, Mr Bob Aldworth. Mr Waterson has seen his role as a "caretaker" until Mr Ball moves in.

You can move up to a Gulfstream II for about the same investment you'd make in a new—but smaller, less productive—medium jet.



In this case, used is better than new.

When you look at a new medium-size business jet—something like a Lear 55, BAe 125-700/800, Citation III or Falcon 200—you're looking at somewhere around \$6 million all up.

For that kind of money, you expect to get a lot of airplane. The truth is, you get only what this class offers: medium.

Range, cabin size, passenger comfort, engine power, performance—everything is medium.

You certainly don't get anywhere near the top of the line in business jets.

But you can get there. And for about the same investment.

Instead of looking at a new medium jet, look at one of the good used Gulfstream IIs currently available from us.

Remember, the Gulfstream II is the airplane that originally set the standards for superiority in business jets in terms of total performance, speed, range, cabin size, engine reliability and systems dependability.

And in today's market, you can get all that superiority for an investment that represents a real value. What's more, history suggests that it will be an investment that will retain much of its value over a long period of time.

Consider some of what you'd have in a Gulfstream II:

- Long range capabilities with optimum performance versatility. You can go anywhere your business takes you, even overseas. And even though the Gulfstream II is a big airplane, it can operate into and out of smaller airports, just like those smaller medium jets.

- More comfort in a big, spacious cabin. With over six feet of stand-up headroom and a flat floor the entire 39-foot length of the cabin, most Gulfstream IIs are outfitted for 12, 14, or more passengers, and have every amenity for superlative comfort and convenience, including a full-size galley, a full-size lavatory/dressing room, and a pressurized baggage compartment that is accessible in flight. (No wonder executives have always preferred the Gulfstream-size cabin.)

- Around-the-clock service and support from the people who know Gulfstreams the best. It's available from the Gulfstream Service Center in Savannah, Georgia, which provides unequalled "one-stop" convenience for every Gulfstream operator.

There are many other advantages a Gulfstream II has over any medium jet, of course. Once you know them all, we think you'll come around to our point of view: a good used Gulfstream II purchased from us can be a better investment for you than a new medium jet.

To prove our point, let us show one of the Gulfstream IIs described in the box below. We've inspected each one, know its service history and maintenance records, and are confident of its excellent condition.

These outstanding Gulfstream IIs are now available from Gulfstream Aerospace:

Serial Number 15: 7265 hours on airframe, engines time to overhaul about 2500 hours. Dual Collins avionics, Bendix radar, Litton INS. Has 14-passenger interior designed in off-white with red leather trim and brown carpeting. Exterior is white with blue and yellow trim. Aircraft 72-month inspection completed with in April 1981. Has 90-day factory warranty.

Serial Number 102: 6338 hours on airframe, both engines with zero hours since overhaul. Well-equipped with dual Collins avionics, dual Delco INS, many extras. 11-passenger interior refurbished June 1983 in blue and white with leather seats, light oak woodwork throughout. Has all Gulfstream style amenities. New exterior paint scheme is beige and tan with white striping. Has 90-day factory warranty.

Serial Number 204: Single-owner aircraft in excellent condition, with less than 1400 hours on airframe and engines. Fully-equipped for international operations with triple long-range navigation system (dual Delco INS and Global VLS), full complement of Collins avionics. Interior is compartmentalized for 7 passengers in forward section, 5 in aft, with television monitor in each, and handsomely finished in maroon and tan.

These aircraft are offered exclusively by Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation and are subject to prior sale.

For all the details about these specific aircraft, or more general information about the Gulfstream II, call or write Jack Norton, our Director of Used Aircraft Marketing.

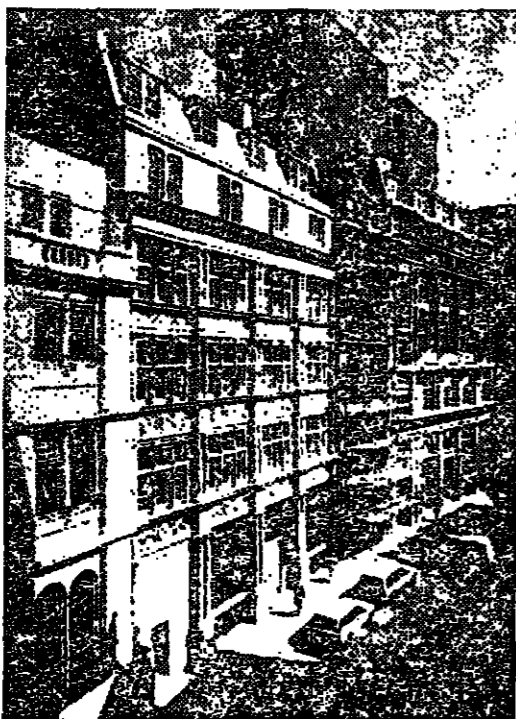
His number: (912) 964-3233. His address: Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation, P.O. Box 2206, Savannah, Georgia 31402. Telex: 804705.



"In The Heart of the City"

66-67 CORNHILL

LONDON EC3



20,000 sqft approx
Prime Air Conditioned Banking/Office Building
TO LET



NOTICE OF REDEMPTION

To the Holders of

RICHARDSON-VICKS OVERSEAS FINANCE N.V.

(Formerly Richardson-Merrell Overseas Finance N.V.)

8 3/4% Guaranteed Debentures Due December 15, 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the provisions of the Indenture dated as of December 15, 1970 providing for the above Debentures, \$1,855,000 principal amount of said Debentures have been selected for redemption on December 15, 1983, through operation of the mandatory Sinking Fund at the redemption price of 100% of the principal amount thereof, together with accrued interest thereon to said date, as follows:

OUTSTANDING DEBENTURES OF \$1,000 EACH OF PREFIX "M" BEARING THE DISTINCTIVE NUMBERS ENDING IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING TWO DIGITS:

08 10 14 20 32 40 44 50 56 61 66 70 76 80 91 98

09 13 19 25 37 43 46 51 55 60 65 72 78 84 94 99

ALSO OUTSTANDING DEBENTURES OF PREFIX "M" BEARING THE FOLLOWING NUMBERS:

7 780 4060 6460 7260 7560 7860 13650 14360 15360 17760 18260
250 1360 4260 6060 7360 7660 7960 11760 12460 13460 15460 18160 19160
260 3060 3860 7160 7460 8860 12560 14560 15560 16560 18560

On December 15, 1983, the Debentures designated above will become due and payable in such coin or currency of the United States of America as at the time of payment shall be legal tender for the payment of public and private debts. Said Debentures will be paid, upon presentation and surrender thereof with all coupons appertaining thereto maturing after the redemption date, at the option of the holder either (a) at the corporate trust office of Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, 13th Floor, 30 West Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10013, or (b) at the main offices of any of the following: Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York in Brussels, Frankfurt am Main, London, Paris and Zurich; Credit Foncier de France S.A. in Milan and Rome; Bank Mores & Hope N.V. in Amsterdam; and Kredietbank S.A. Luxembourg. Payments at the offices referred to in (b) above will be made by check drawn on a bank in New York City or by transfer to a dollar account maintained by the holder with a bank in New York City.

Coupons due December 15, 1983 should be detached and collected in the usual manner. On and after December 15, 1983 interest shall cease to accrue on the Debentures herein designated for redemption.

RICHARDSON-VICKS OVERSEAS FINANCE N.V.

Dated: November 15, 1983

NOTICE

The following Debentures previously called for redemption have not as yet been presented for payment:

24-3225 9385 12735 12741

SOCIETE GENERALE DE BELGIQUE

SOCIETE ANONYME - REGISTERED OFFICE: RUE ROYALE 30, 1000 BRUSSELS
BRUSSELS C.R. No. 17497 - V.A.T. No. 403.203.24

APPLICATIONS MAY BE MADE FROM
3rd TO 21st NOVEMBER 1983

**OFFER
FOR SALE
OF 3,626,204
AVF SHARES
TO EXISTING
SHAREHOLDERS**

AT A PRICE OF BF 1.500
PER SHARE
ON THE BASIS OF
1 NEW SHARE FOR EACH
3 EXISTING SHARES

**OPPORTUNITY
TO EXCHANGE
1975-1987
CONVERTIBLE
STOCK FOR
AFV SHARES**

ON THE BASIS OF
2 NEW SHARES FOR EACH SUCH STOCK
UNIT TOGETHER WITH NET INTEREST
ACCURED THEREON
(COUPONS No. 9 AND OTHERS ATTACHED)

THE NEW AFV SHARES WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR DIVIDENDS ACCRUING
WITH EFFECT FROM 1st JANUARY 1984

THESE SHARES WILL BENEFIT FROM THE TAX ADVANTAGES PRESCRIBED BY
ROYAL DECREE No. 15 OF 26 MARCH 1982 AS AMENDED BY ROYAL DECREE No. 150
OF 30th DECEMBER 1982 DESIGNED TO ENCOURAGE THE SUBSCRIPTION
OR PURCHASE OF SHARES IN BELGIAN COMPANIES.

APPLICATION MAY BE MADE THROUGH ANY OF THE FOLLOWING FROM WHOM COPIES
OF THE NEW ISSUE PROSPECTUS MAY BE OBTAINED

IN BELGIUM:
• SOCIETE GENERALE DE BANQUE
• BANQUE BELGO-ZAIRE (BELGOLAISE)
• BANQUE BRUXELLES LAMBERT
• KREDIETBANK
• BANQUE DE PARIS ET DES PAYS-BAS
• BANQUE NAGELMAEKERS
• BANQUE DEGRIOOF

IN LUXEMBOURG:
• BANQUE GENERALE DU LUXEMBOURG
IN FRANCE:
• BANQUE BELGE (FRANCE)
• SOCIETE GENERALE
IN GREAT-BRITAIN:
• BANQUE BELGE LIMITED

APPLICATION MAY ALSO BE MADE TO THE BANKS LISTED
ABOVE THROUGH THE INTERMEDIARY OF OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

SUBSCRIPTION RIGHTS REPRESENTED BY COUPON No. 11 DETACHED
FROM THE EXISTING SHARE CERTIFICATE WILL BE QUOTED
ON THE BRUSSELS, ANTWERP, GENT, PARIS AND LUXEMBOURG STOCK EXCHANGES.

APPLICATION HAS BEEN MADE FOR AN OFFICIAL LISTING
FOR THE NEW SHARES ON THE STOCK EXCHANGES MENTIONED ABOVE.
THE NOTICE REQUIRED PURSUANT TO THE COORDINATED LAWS ON COMMERCIAL COMPANIES
HAS BEEN DEPOSITED AT THE REGISTRY OF THE BRUSSELS COMMERCIAL COURT ON 26 OCTOBER 1983

THE SOCIETE GENERALE DE BELGIQUE - AN AGENT FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

THE SOCIETE GENERALE DE BELGIQUE WAS FOUNDED IN BRUSSELS IN 1822
AS A VEHICLE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. TODAY IT CONTROLS A GROUP OF INDUSTRIAL
AND SERVICE COMPANIES BOTH IN BELGIUM AND ABROAD.

ITS INTERESTS RANGE FROM NON-FERROUS METALS TO ENERGY, AND INCLUDE
MINING AND MINERAL PRODUCTS, STRUCTURAL, MECHANICAL, AND
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, CHEMICALS, BUILDING, SHIPPING AND INSURANCE.

APPOINTMENTS

INTERNATIONAL

Changes at Tiger Oats

Mr Tony Norton will take over as chairman of TIGER OATS AND NATIONAL MILLING COMPANY, one of South Africa's two major food groups, on the retirement of the present chairman Mr Rudi Frankel next September. The Frankel family were the largest individual shareholders in Tiger Oats before its acquisition last year by Barlow Rand, mining and industrial conglomerate. Mr Norton previously headed Barlow's sugar interest. Mr Robbie Williams, another Barlow Rand executive, will replace Mr Norton as executive vice chairman of Tiger Oats. Mr Frankel, who is widely recognised as the architect and builder of the group, will become vice president.

Mr James J. Hayden, vice president of REKNORD, has been appointed president of its electronic products division based in Milwaukee. He will also continue as a vice president. Mr Hayden joined REKNORD in 1974 as assistant treasurer. Mr John E. Spivack has been named president of ENVIREX INC., a Rexnord company located in Waukesha, Wisconsin. He was executive vice president and general manager.

DIGITAL MICROSYSTEMS INC., the Californian-based subsidiary of Eitel, has named Mr Alfred (Fred) E. Purcell as director of international sales. He was with Osborne Computer Corp., where he was responsible for launching the company's international sales programme and setting up a distribution network. His responsibilities will include

market planning for the whole international market place excluding the U.S. and the UK, embracing sales and distribution channels, product marketing, promotional activities and advertising.

AMERICAN GENERAL CORP has elected the following executive officers: Mr F. Max Schuette has been promoted to executive vice president with responsibility for administrative operations. He was also named a member of American General's investment and senior operating committees. He succeeds executive vice president Mr William E. Pardue who has been named head of the operations division with responsibility for co-ordinating activities between the parent company and its network of 24 operating subsidiaries. Mr William C. Fehle has been named to the new post of senior vice president, public affairs. He joined American General early in 1981 as senior vice president and general counsel. Mr Joseph S. Maniscalco has been promoted to senior vice president and controller, and Mr Charles E. Beard has been elected a senior vice president in the operations division.

Several employees have received new responsibilities at ASHLAND COAL, INC., of Huntington, West Virginia. Mr Harold E. Sergeant has been named senior vice president marketing. He will remain president of Ashland Coal International. Mr W. S. Ritchie has been named administrative vice president with responsibility for government and regulatory affairs, development engineering

and Commonwealth Equipment, Inc. Mr Marc R. Seleschek has been named administrative vice president and chief financial officer, and Mr C. Henry Beuten, Jr. has been named assistant to the president responsible for information services. Tri-State Testing Company, Inc. and marketing administration. Commonwealth Equipment, Inc. and Tri-State Testing Company, Inc. are wholly-owned subsidiaries of Ashland Coal.

THE PILLSBURY COMPANY has elected Mr Herbert D. Dale senior vice president and controller. Mr Paul J. Kelsey, senior vice president controller and secretary will continue as secretary. Mr Charles S. O'Connell was appointed executive vice president and chief financial officer of Burger King. Mr Walter Leach, Jr. was named vice president, investor relations for Pillsbury.

PARKER HANNIFIN CORP. of Cleveland, Ohio, has elected Mr Charles S. O'Connell as president of its Fluidpower group. Mr Duane E. Collins, president of the company's fluid connectors group and Mr James P. Meckler, president of its Fluidpower group.

PRICE WATERHOUSE has named Mr Lloyd J. Looram as director of multistate consulting services. He will work from the New York office and will be responsible for advisory services on state and local taxation, including income, franchise, property, and sales taxes. He will also

Senior posts at MEPC

MEPC has made the following appointments from December 1: Mr N. A. S. (Dick) East, managing director of MEPC, is taking on responsibility for MEPC's other European operations in France and Belgium. Mr R. M. D. (Maurice) Fawcett is becoming managing director, MEPC Ireland.

MEPC BANK has transferred the management responsibilities for its operations in Europe, the Middle East and Africa from its headquarters in Pittsburgh to London. Mr Ralph A. Harbeck, senior vice president, is in charge of MEPC's activities in Europe, Africa and the Middle East. Mr John K. Mole, vice president, has been appointed general manager of the London branch with responsibility for all activities in the British Isles. Mr Joseph W. Amy, vice president, has been placed in charge of business development for the London branch with responsibility for all corporate and financial institutions. Consulting business in the British Isles. Mr E. C. Cason, vice president, has been appointed manager of London's country and banking group with responsibility for all activities in the North Sea area, France, Iberia, Italy and Greece.

On December 1, Mr P. J. M. Machelsen will be resigning as a member of the executive board of ENKIA NV due to reasons of health. Mr J. W. van der Meer, a member of some of the major plan committees, Mr A. J. M. Koal has been appointed to the executive board from Rotterdam. Mr E. C. Cason is managing director of Enkai Nederland.

UNITED KINGDOM

Finance chief for Lloyds Bank

Mr John Rees, general manager (group finance), has been appointed group chief financial officer of LLOYDS BANK. This is a new appointment effective from January 1. Reporting to the group chief executive, Mr Rees will be a member of the senior management team with special responsibility for the development of the group's financial strategy and for the finance and accounting functions of the group worldwide. Mr Leon Williams, an assistant general manager, has been appointed general manager (finance) for the UK bank and its domestic subsidiaries.

On January 1 Mr J. A. Wiseheart, chief manager, Commonwealth Trading Bank of Australia and Mr J. R. E. Lamb will become chairman and secretary respectively of THE ASSOCIATED AUSTRALASIAN BANKS in London.

Mr A. J. H. Hodder has been appointed chairman and managing director of HOGG ROBINSON REINSURANCE (SERVICES), part of Hogg Robinson Group,

life division, as the company's actuary.

ADAMSEY * BATHROOMS. Gateshead, has appointed Mr Raymond Barrett as managing director. He was marketing manager of Thom EMI Heating.

OFFICE * CLEANING SERVICES has promoted Mr Sale Mawer to the post of managing director of its new division in January. He will continue as director of New Century Cleaning, a member of the group which he joined in 1980. In his new capacity he will be controlling the group's window cleaning service on a national basis.

Mr Harry Nicholls, dean of the faculty of management and head of the management centre at Aston University, has been appointed chief executive of ASTON SCIENCE PARK. The appointment was made by Birmingham Technology—a partnership between Birmingham City Council, Aston University and the University of Aston.

HADEN MAINTENANCE has appointed Mr J. G. Jennings as sales and marketing director UK.

Mr Basil M. Barber has been appointed director of associated services of the INITIAL GROUP with special responsibility for the public sector. He was formerly sales director of Selvoke and Drewry.

Following the retirement of Mr Kenneth J. Burton, senior partner of Lane, Clark and Peacock, consulting accountants, CORNHILL INSURANCE GROUP has appointed Mr Frederick J. Dinmore, assistant general manager and head of Cornhill's

General manager at Bank of Scotland

Mr Thomas Bennie, divisional general manager, international division of the BANK OF SCOTLAND, has been appointed joint general manager with special responsibility for management services, central banking services, personal financial services and marketing. Development and public affairs. He succeeds Mr John F. Wilson, who retires on May 31. Mr Peter A. Hart, an assistant general manager, international division has been appointed divisional general manager, from February 1 in succession to Mr Bennie.

Mr David Beeswell becomes director of sales, UK/Ireland, for W. W. WEAVER AND SONS. Mr Michael Cowan is appointed director of production at the blending and bottling plant at Glasgow, and Mr New Stone becomes director of marketing, UK/IEC. These are all promotions.

Mr Michael Shanks has been appointed chairman of HUGGIN GROUP, British company formed to take over the international retail systems business of AB Electrolux after a management buy-out. Mr David C. Pope continues as group chief executive based at the London headquarters, and Mr Gavan Skelton is the deputy group chief executive. Other appointments to the board are Mr Leslie Crichton, deputy chairman, and Mr Nick Dow.



The FT/British Venture Capital Association

Venture Capital Financial Forum

Hotel Inter Continental, London 1 & 2 December, 1983

The Forum

This is not another Venture Capital conference, but a unique opportunity to hear and meet the executives and entrepreneurs from Britain's leading venture backed companies.

Many of these companies will be raising additional finance privately or are seeking a public quotation for their shares on the USM or on the full stock market in the foreseeable future.

Format

The leading executives of over 20 venture backed companies will address this forum during morning sessions and will be available for private meetings in the afternoons.

Sponsors

FT FINANCIAL TIMES

BVCA BRITISH VENTURE CAPITAL ASSOCIATION

Who Should Attend

Senior executives from financial institutions with responsibility for investment management and with existing or potential interest in Venture Capital, in particular insurance companies, investment trusts, merchant banks, pension funds, stockbrokers, unit trusts, other institutional investors and, of course, venture capitalists. Industrial companies keen to develop their involvement in Venture Capital will also find the conference valuable.

Venture Capital Forum

The Financial Times (London), Conference Organisation, 100 Old Broad Street, London EC2M 1JG. Tel: 01-423 1234. Telex: 21277 FTG G.

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____

Telex: _____

Each gesture of his is an act of technical perfection

He is a master of technique. The pantomime portrays his ideas, conceptions and observations in an absolutely convincing manner, without big words.

Great technical ability is also necessary when new ideas and discoveries are to be realized for higher performance, greater safety, more independence or for new methods of workmanship.

The engineers and designers at Mannesmann can call upon the knowledge and the experience of all divisions of the company.

New safe high-capacity units were produced for drive and control techniques, module-controlled programming systems for distribution and warehousing, energy saving and environmentally sound processes for metal making and metal shaping.

This is the way the people of Mannesmann carry out their ideas, conceptions and observations to technical perfection.

And, of course, new and improved starting materials for pipe and tubing that have to hold their own under extremely adverse conditions. Fuel element cladding tubes in nuclear power stations, tubes with a high creep rupture strength for the gasification of coal, and large-diameter pipes that bring gas and oil from remote sources to the centres of consumption.

Technology that is convincing, without big words.

Ask the man from Mannesmann



مكتبة الدكتور

FINANCIAL TIMES SURVEY

Tuesday November 15, 1983

International health care and hospital construction

IN WORLD health care the early 1980s have been significant for two main developments: in the developing world the launch of the World Health Organisation's "Health for All by the Year 2000" campaign, and in richer countries the stepping up of efforts aimed at cost containment and obtaining value for money.

The two developments reflect an ever-growing demand for health care by rich and poor alike and the growing realisation that such provision is increasingly expensive. In OECD countries there is, indeed, an in-built tendency for health spending to run ahead of increases in national wealth because of an ageing population structure and the increased complexity of medical technology.

Poorer countries are by contrast struggling to provide basic services for expanding populations, and in many cases to wipe out endemic diseases, against a background of falling prices for their raw materials and inflationary increases in the cost of the goods they buy.

In 1981, health care spending worldwide was estimated to be around \$419bn — or almost as much as the UK's gross national product — with the money going on a range of facilities and services from hospitals and clinics to pharmaceuticals, and management consultancy orders.

This spending, the vast bulk of it in the developed world, had been building up throughout the 1960s and 1970s. By the late 1970s the industrialised countries were spending around 8 per cent of GNP on health care — double the figure for the 1960s. Currently Sweden, West Germany and the U.S. spend between 9 per cent and 10.5 per cent of GNP on health care.

One of the consequences of this growth in health's call on national resources, as Professor Brian Abel-Smith — of the

While wealthier nations are looking for ways of cutting the cost of medical equipment, hospital building and drugs, much of the Third World is still seeking to build up basic medical services

Sorting out the priorities

By GARETH GRIFFITHS

London School of Economics points out is that people in many industrialised countries are now working four weeks out of the year or more simply to pay for their health care.

"It is not surprising therefore that more and more people are asking whether they are getting their money's worth from this vast expenditure," he notes.

The rise in health care costs has meant in the OECD a shift from private sector to public funding of health care, with the result that governments, too, are becoming more concerned with the control of costs. In 1980 the public sector accounted for 50 per cent of costs but by 1980 this had risen to an OECD average of 77 per cent.

Yet, health is only one of a number of services competing for the public purse, alongside defence, housing, education, and transport, to name a few. Health ministries throughout Europe and in the U.S. have, therefore, been seeking to develop new ways of measuring

performance by their health services so as to be able to identify how to spend limited resources most effectively.

The debate has also sharpened over priorities within health care. Much of the increasing cost of health care provision is the direct result of major advances in equipment which make it possible to treat previously very difficult conditions. Because of the very high costs involved, the question that arises is over the best use of resources — whether to save a handful of lives as with heart transplants, or whether to improve the lot of a far greater number of people suffering from mental illness or the diseases of the aged.

Mr Robert Maxwell, a British expert on health care, observes: "Health care spending is very closely related to the means available. The higher a nation's GNP the higher tends to be the proportion of that GNP related to health care. The proportion will tend to rise everywhere in periods of sustained prosperity. In times of

economic difficulty the pattern will be more diverse.

"Because of the strong pressure for a continued expansion within the health care system, national expenditure will continue to rise in countries where the controls over health care are weak or fragmented. National expenditures may well fall relative to GNP where controls are tight, depending on other perceived priorities."

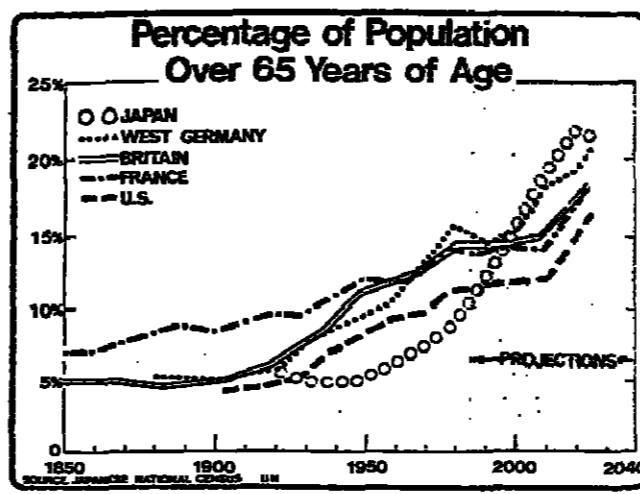
As well as seeking to control costs, however, governments throughout the developed world have also been re-examining methods of raising finance, and this has become a live political as well as economic issue throughout Europe and in the U.S. and Japan.

In most of the rest of the world the aim much more simply in the words of the "Health for All by the Year 2000" campaign launched by the World Health Organisation is "the attainment by all people of a (health) level permitting them to lead socially and economically productive lives."

Health statistics for the developing world do indeed make depressing reading. The statistical norm for anyone living in a low income country is that if they survive childhood they can expect to spend a quarter of their life expectancy of 50 years, in a disabled state.

The WHO hopes to achieve improvements by a shift in health care resources towards primary health, in other words improving water supplies, increasing immunisation programmes, emphasising the need for a limited list of essential and inexpensive drugs, training health workers, and shifting the balance of health care away from a small urban elite.

The campaign marks a more assertive style by WHO under its director-general Dr Halfdan Mahler. WHO achieved the elimination of smallpox from the planet in 1980, although its



The good health league

Country	Health index*	% of GDP spent on health	% of health finance from public sector
Sweden	(1) 0.73	8.5%	91.6%
Netherlands	(2) 0.79	8.1%	71.1%
Switzerland	(3) 0.84	6.9%	66.5%
UK	(4) 0.83	5.5%	92.6%
Australia	(5) 1.02	7.3%	64.4%
Canada	(6) 1.06	7.1%	73.4%
France	(7) 1.10	7.9%	76.0%
Italy	(8) 1.11	7.1%	91.3%
U.S.	(9) 1.17	8.6%	42.7%
West Germany	(10) 1.23	9.4%	77.1%

* Index based upon composite of health indicators in 1975, such as infant mortality, perinatal mortality and premature death. Source: Health and Wealth, Robert Maxwell (Lexington Books)

CONTENTS

Speed up in hospital construction	II
Medical electronics	II
World Health Organisation strategy	III
The drug industry	IV
Battle over cost containment	IV

malaria campaigns have run into problems. The main challenge now facing WHO is to keep down the so-called seventh cholera pandemic, one of the great disease cycles of history.

This started in 1959 and unlike the 1928-37 pandemic which spread throughout Europe, North America, parts of Asia and Africa, its ravages have been limited. This year, nevertheless, more than 30,000 cases of cholera have already been reported.

In the developing world relatively small improvements costing modest sums can make a major difference. In the developed world the answers

to the very different problems are unlikely to be so easy. In particular it remains unclear what the correlation is between the size of expenditure on health provision and the health status of a country's population.

To take one example it is not self-evidently the case that the population of the U.S. with its high level of spending on health is significantly healthier than that of the UK which is now one of the lowest OECD spenders.

As the pressures on governments to keep down the tax burden of health expenditure increase, issues of this sort are likely to be the constant theme of debate.

Big worldwide market for equipment

HEALTH EQUIPMENT suppliers are now competing in one of the world's biggest markets. Total expenditure on health care last year — including all items such as wages and salaries as well as equipment and the cost of building hospitals — amounted to \$419bn, a figure that seems certain to go on growing.

Costly new equipment coming on to the market, much of it made possible by advances in micro-electronics is one factor behind escalating costs, but there are others. Much of the hospital stock in the developed world now needs replacing. In the U.S. for example it is estimated hospitals need to spend \$160bn to keep up-to-date. In the third world, building programmes — though on a lesser scale — are continuing in the Middle East, as the rich oil states seek to provide at home facilities now only available in Europe or the U.S. Elsewhere the struggle to provide health care facilities of a more basic kind continues.

Yet, despite the size of the market, competition is becoming increasingly fierce for companies supplying equipment, offering management expertise in the running of hospitals, or involved in the physical building of the hospitals themselves.

The pressure in developed and developing countries is on to cut costs, so that price has now become a much more important determining factor in whether or not major contracts are won. With big domestic contracts becoming fewer in the developed countries, as national exchequers cut into health programmes to curb budget deficits, the number of companies seeking to win the business that is available has increased.

National pressures in the markets supplied are also making the salesman's task more difficult.

Saudi Arabia, for example is now insisting that companies engaged in work in the country should be 30 per cent locally-owned — a move likely to result in an increase in joint ventures. Other Middle East countries are beginning to turn away from awarding turnkey contracts in a bid to stimulate local supply.

Britain itself has traditionally run a substantial surplus in medical equipment exports though in 1982 the gap between exports at \$248m and imports had narrowed to \$42m. (This compares with pharmaceutical exports of \$992m and imports of \$377m in the same year.)

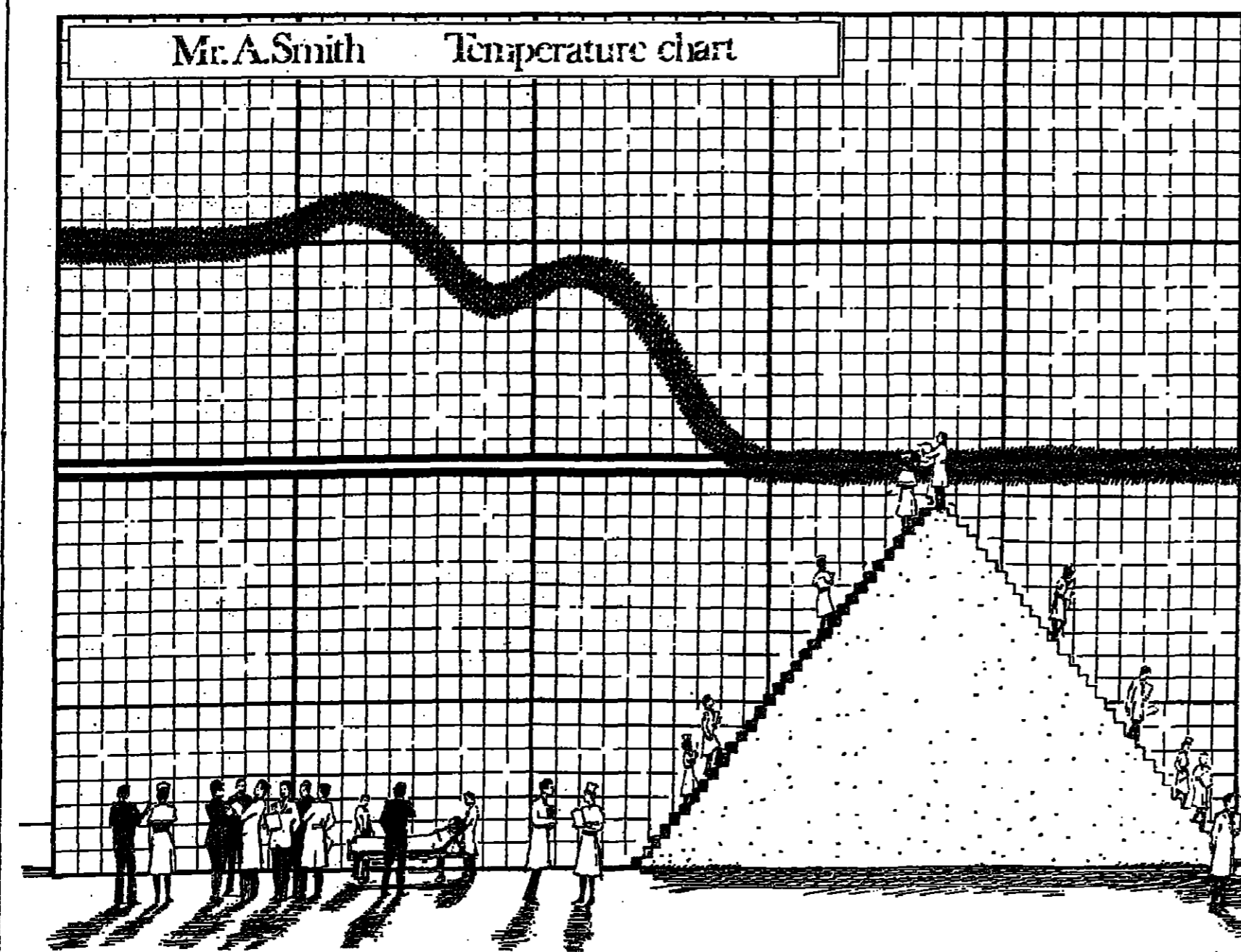
Understatement

This may represent an understatement of the actual total for medical equipment as sales also figure under different headings, and the real value of exports could be as high as \$600m, Mr David Pillington, director general of the British Health Care Council claims.

Nevertheless, medical equipment exports — in the UK's case mainly to the U.S., West Germany, France, Ireland and Saudi Arabia — appear to have remained stagnant while imports are increasing rapidly.

What is perhaps more serious is that Britain's industry which consists in the main of small companies employing fewer than 100 people is losing out to the U.S., West Germany and the Netherlands in areas of advanced technology. Many UK companies are now trying, however, to move upmarket into the provision of more highly valued goods and services.

To maintain a patient's health, you have to understand more than one graph.



Having the very best medical expertise is important. Very important.

But having the right back-up is just as crucial.

At an AMI hospital we understand that doctors, however skilled they are, cannot be expected to perform at their best unless they have everything they need. Just so.

The latest equipment. (Like the full body CT scanner at The Priory Hospital, Birmingham.)

The best environment. (The sort that won us a health care management award for the Alexandra Hospital in Manchester).

The organisation.

To provide all this, each hospital needs to be run as efficiently and smoothly as the best-run business.

And to ensure this happens, each of AMI's hospitals in the UK are truly independent by being financially autonomous.

That means having a real understanding of hospital management. Of matters, not just medical, but financial and organisational as well. From ergonomics to nursing, from investment to catering.

AMI. An organisation that will have invested over £100 million in the UK in the next 5 years.

Ploughing back profits to provide for new development and for the continuous updating of existing facilities.

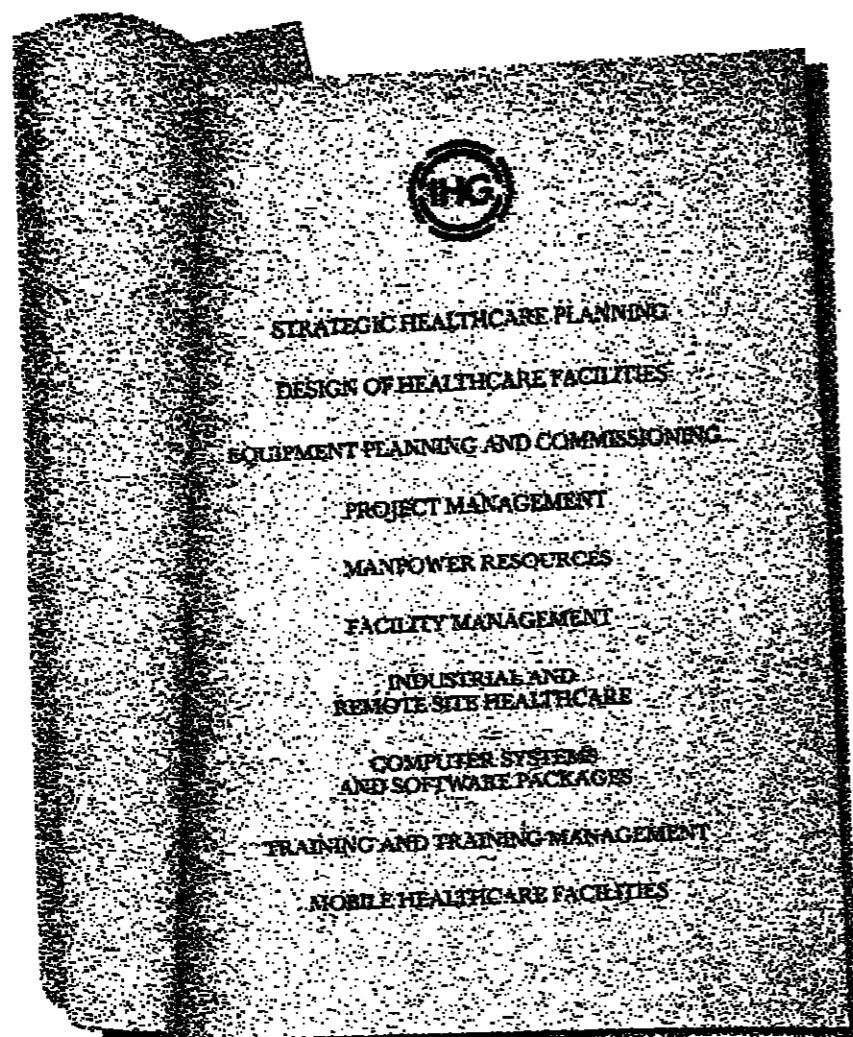
So a doctor doesn't have to worry about anything other than the patient. So the patient doesn't have to worry.

That's how to run a hospital properly.

And that's AMI.

AMI HOSPITALS
INDEPENDENT HOSPITALS
FOR THE INDEPENDENT PATIENT

For further information on AMI or its hospitals, please contact: AMI Hospitals, 4 Cornwell Terrace, Regents Park, London NW1 4QF. Telephone: 01-496 1266.
The Harley Street Clinic, London - The Princess Margaret Hospital, Windsor - The Princess Grace Hospital, London - The Alexandra Hospital, Manchester - The Priory Hospital, Birmingham
The Clementine Churchill Hospital, Harrow - The Chiltern Hospital, Great Missenden - The Chaucer Hospital, Canterbury - Ross Hall Hospital, Glasgow (AMI managed)



When it comes to healthcare, go by the book.

In healthcare planning and management you only have one chance to get it right.

You can't trust to luck.
Not with lives at stake.

Include IHG in your plans and you take the risk out of healthcare.

Take a quick look down the chapter headings above and you'll get some idea of the range of services covered by IHG.

IHG provides expertise, professional guidance and a wealth of international experience, whether you want individual advice, people, or turnkey project management.

IHG can provide the best solution to your needs from the design of a specialist operating theatre to the planning, equipping and running of an entire hospital.

But IHG doesn't just look good on paper.

It currently has several major projects running in the Middle and Far East, for both public and private clients.

And all are running successfully.

If you want to know more write to The Marketing Director, International Hospitals Group, Stoke House, Stoke Green, Stoke Poges, Slough, England SL2 4HS, and ask for your copy of the IHG book.



**INTERNATIONAL
HOSPITALS
GROUP**

Invest in the Healthcare Revolution.

The Henderson Global Healthcare Unit Trust is the first and only UK authorised unit trust to invest exclusively in Healthcare. Since launch on September 16th 1983, the trust has already attracted funds of £11.5 million (as at October 31st 1983).

The objective of Henderson Global Healthcare Unit Trust is to achieve maximum capital growth for investors - income is not an important consideration. (The initial gross yield is estimated at just 0.01%).

To meet this objective, the trust is internationally invested in companies operating in the four main healthcare industry sectors:

1. Facilities Companies - operators of hospitals, nursing homes, psychiatric clinics, convalescent homes, or gymnasias.
2. Pharmaceutical Manufacturers - also including companies in the fast developing field of genetic engineering.
3. Equipment Manufacturers - marketing surgical, diagnostic and other medical hardware of all kinds.

4. Support Services - companies in the fields of materials supply, clinical laboratory testing, catering, laundry, computers and other services essential to the running of an efficient modern hospital.

Around 60% of the trust's portfolio will be invested in the USA, with a further 20% in Japan and 20% in Europe. Up to 5% of the fund may be invested in private companies when suitable opportunities present themselves. The trust's Managers draw upon long-established contacts in the USA and upon the expertise of Henderson Baring Management in Japan in identifying prospective investments.

You can make an investment in Henderson Global Healthcare Unit Trust simply by completing the application form below.

The Managers are confident that over the medium to long term this new trust is exceptional in terms of its potential for successful investment. You should, however, remember that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

Henderson Global Healthcare Unit Trust.

Additional Information

An initial charge of 3.4% on the assets (equivalent to 5% of the issue price) is made by the managers when units are issued. Out of the initial charge, the managers pay remuneration to qualified intermediaries; rates are available on request. The Trust Deed provides for an annual charge of 1.4% (plus VAT) on the value of the Trust to be deducted from the gross income to cover administration costs.

Distributions of income will be paid on 4th October each year. The first distribution will be paid on 4th October 1984. Half-yearly reports on the progress of the Fund will be issued in April each year. Contract notes will be issued and unit certificates will be provided within eight weeks of payment. To sell units endorse your unit certificate and send it to the managers. Payment will normally be made within seven working days.

Unit Trusts are not subject to capital gains tax; moreover a unit holder will not pay tax on a disposal of units unless the total realised price from all sources in any tax year amounts to more than £5,300. Prices and yield can be found daily in the Financial Times. Treasury Midland Bank Trust Company Limited, Managers: Henderson Global Healthcare Unit Trust Management Limited, 25 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 1DA (Registered Office Reg No. 569032). A member of the Unit Trust Association. The Henderson Group also manages Pension Funds, Investment Trusts, Off-shore Funds, Exempt Trusts and Private Client Portfolios.

This offer is not available to residents of the Republic of Ireland.

The Henderson Unit Trust Management Limited, Dealing Department, 5 Rayleigh Road, Rotton, Brentwood, Essex CM3 1AA. Tel. 0277 217233.

I/We wish to buy _____ units in Henderson Global Healthcare Unit Trust at the price ruling upon receipt of application (minimum initial investment £500).

I/We enclose remittance of £ _____ payable to Henderson Unit Trust Management Limited.

SHARE EXCHANGE SCHEME. Our Share Exchange Scheme provides a favourable way to switch into this Unit Trust. For details please tick box or telephone Peter Frost, our Share Exchange Manager on 01-628 5757.

(If there are joint applicants each must sign and attach names and addresses separately.)

Surname (Mr/Ms/Miss) _____

First Name(s) _____

Address _____

Signature(s) _____ Date _____

_____ FT 16-11

Henderson. The Investment Managers.

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH CARE IV

The lop-sided world of the drug industry

AS THE WORLD'S DEMAND for modern hospitals and medical equipment increases, so does the demand for safe, efficacious drugs.

In the last decade or so, the pharmaceutical industry's image as miracle-worker has been somewhat tarnished but the setbacks and controversies have only increased the industry's determination to provide more treatments for more diseases in more parts of the world.

To meet this challenge, the \$800m-a-year pharmaceutical industry is becoming increasingly international in all areas of its business. Thus, research into new cephalosporins, the broad-spectrum antibiotic used mainly in hospitals, is actively under way in the U.S., Britain and Japan, as well as in Sweden, West Germany and Switzerland.

Anti-cancer research is also a truly global project, with nearly every developed country hosting a cancer research institute to augment the work done by private researchers.

This expansion in research activity worldwide has led to a record number of licensing and joint-venture deals within the pharmaceutical industry. Last year, for example, nearly 400 companies from 29 different countries agreed to licensing deals for new products - up from just 186 companies in 1981.

Research

The amount of money being ploughed into research is also growing. According to Edinburgh stockbroker James Mackenzie, in 1978 drug companies were spending about 10.3 per cent of their sales on research and development. Today that figure is close to 12 per cent.

Even so, the distribution of drugs world-wide is heavily lop-sided in favour of those countries which can afford to pay for them. According to United Nations statistics, over 80 per cent of the world's drug production is consumed in developed countries and less than 20 per cent in developing nations.

In fact, Dr Halkin Mahler, director general of the World Health Organisation, said last year that the public health services of the 67 poorest developing countries, excluding China,

are spending less in total than the rich countries spend on tranquillisers.

In a recent paper on the European pharmaceutical industry, Dr George Teeling-Smith, director of the UK Office of Health Economics, and Mr Otto Nowotny argued that three specific actions should be considered by industrialised countries in order to change this pattern.

These proposed actions are:

- More research into tropical and other diseases prevalent in developing countries.
- Special price concessions to developing countries in order to make drugs available to as large a segment of the needy population as possible.
- Adequate drug prices in the industrialised countries to generate the funds required by the first two proposals.

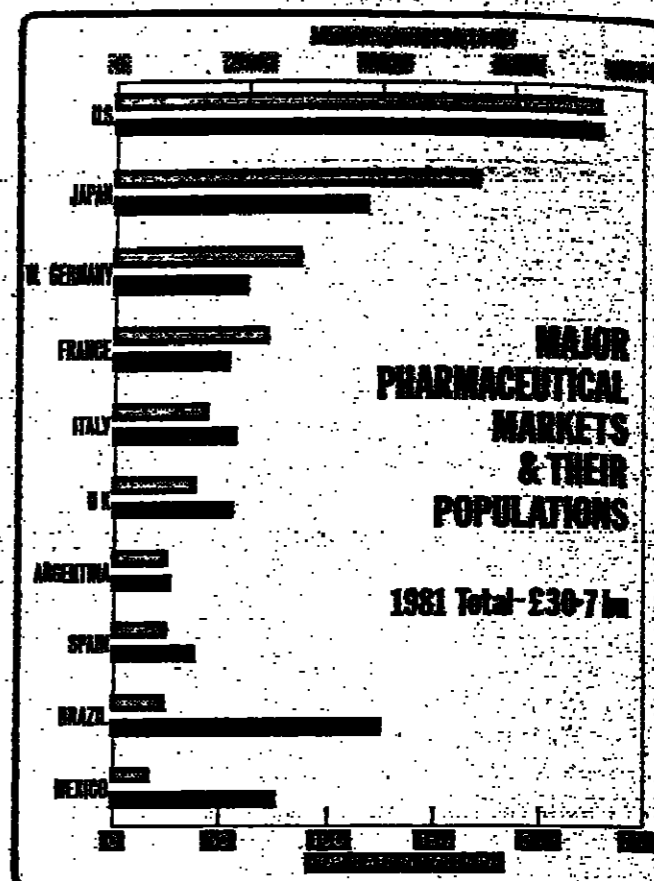
The third proposal strikes a sensitive chord with the drug industry and its critics. In the past few years, the drug industry in Europe and the U.S. has come under attack by charities like Oxfam and consumer groups for allegedly charging excessively high prices for its products.

The critics charge that drug companies are quick to bring out similar products in a given therapeutic area without necessarily providing any innovation. Senator Edward Kennedy of the U.S. described the results as a "race" in which the world has been flooded with a "myriad of competing drug products."

The World Health Organisation, in a controversial report published in 1981, stated that just over 200 active substances could adequately cover the health needs of the majority of the world's population. This figure of 200, they stated, compared to the "quite absurd" figure of 30,000 brands in some countries.

In their defence, drug companies point out that long regulatory procedures mean shortened patent life for drugs, and hence the need to maximise profit by patenting. None the less, governments throughout Europe are seizing on this issue and many appear poised to regulate further drug prices in the months to come.

One area where the cost of a drug may actually hinder its own growth potential is in the cephalosporin market. The natural successors to penicillins,



cephalosporins are now one of the biggest drug markets in the world and a hotly competitive one. The injectible third-generation cephalosporin market is being chased by a host of eager participants, but some early indications are showing that these expensive drugs may not be very much more effective than more traditional antibiotics.

A good example of the increasing need to prove that a drug actually works and indeed, how it works has been demonstrated in the anti-cancer area. For example, the largest selling anti-cancer treatment in Japan has yet to make any dent in Western markets because the Japanese have yet to show substantial proof of efficacy of the drug.

High hopes

High hopes for interferon, the body's own first-line defence against disease, have also been dashed because of disappointing results in clinical trials on solid tumour cancers. The proliferation of new cancer treatments remains high, however, because of the continuing spread of the disease world-wide.

Cancer research is also somewhat less affected by side-effect problems, as terminally ill cancer patients are less likely to complain about complications with a new drug. It offers some hope of recovery. In other areas, however, the concern over side-effects has been increasing.

In Britain alone, some five

Carla Rapoport

Emphasis in many countries is on obtaining value for money Battle over cost containment

"NOW THAT people in so many highly industrialised countries are working four or more weeks out of the year simply to pay for their health care, it is not surprising that more and more are asking whether they are getting their money's worth from this vast expenditure."

The comment comes from Professor Brian Abel-Smith of the London School of Economics, and dozen of health economic commentators. He was summing up the results of a conference on improving cost effectiveness in health care held in Finland under the auspices of the International Social Security Association.

The problems of how to contain the cost of health care and improve efficiency in a sector where normal market rules do not apply are exercising the minds of health ministers and insurance company chiefs throughout the world. Health costs have been rising faster than general inflation and the percentage of national wealth devoted to health has been going up also.

Health care demand appears insatiable simply because the more that is provided, the greater becomes the expectations. An ageing population, caused partly by better health care, in its turn demands more health care expenditure.

The result is that expenditure on health in the United States is now running at around 10.5 per cent of gross national product compared to 7.5 per cent in 1970. Wall Street analysts estimate the figure will be 12 per cent in 1990. France, West Germany and Sweden spend between 8 per cent and 10 per cent of GNP on health and the UK 5.5 per cent.

The arguments about health care cost revolve around three central areas of discussion.

- Is there a point at which health spending produces diminishing returns? The problems in any analysis are first that the international data is often not comparable and secondly that the marginal cost theory does not apply in health. Because life and death are often at stake there is no fixed limit beyond which patients will not be prepared to spend for health care - the only determinant being ability to pay. Doctors are also both suppliers and consumers in health economic equations.

It is in the United States that the most interesting develop-

ments in cost containment are taking place. The Reagan Administration has started a five year reform of the Medicare scheme which in 1981 cost the Federal Government \$44.8bn and covered 26m old people and 3m disabled.

The thrust of the reform, started in October 1982, is to replace a retrospective reimbursement of the cost with a simple prospective payment based on a single rate per admission. What it means is that there will be a squeeze on the less efficient hospitals which will be unable to pass their higher costs on to the taxpayer.

At the same time the State of California has done a deal with individual hospitals providing service for patients under Medicaid. This scheme is run "by the states" for 22m people on a cost-sharing basis with Washington.

Across Western Europe governments have taken measures to make people aware of the cost of health and to try to contain costs.

Such austerity contrasts with the view that the health care sector is the classic recession-proof, investment. The paradox is that both are symptoms of the same trend: health spending is going up but its paymasters are looking for better value. As yet, however, they have only a limited idea of what they mean by better value for money.

Gareth Griffiths

A FINANCIAL TIMES SURVEY

PRIVATE HEALTH CARE

JANUARY 24 1984

The Financial Times is proposing to publish a survey on Private Health Care in its issue of January 24 1984. The provisional editorial synopsis is set out below.

INTRODUCTION After the rapid growth in recent years private medicine is now expanding at a slower rate. Government attitudes to this sector, and the continuing debate surrounding the National Health Service, is the private health market heading for a shake-out as many people believe? An overview of the sector and an examination of the future trends.

Editorial coverage will also include:

- NHS/Private Sector Links
- COSTS/CHARGES
- SPECIALIST SERVICES
- MEDICAL INSURANCE
- HEALTH EDUCATION
- ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE
- HEALTH FAIRS

Copy date: January 16 1984

For further information and advertisement rates please contact:

Tim Thompson

Bracken House, 10 Cannon Street, London EC4A 3DF. Telephone: 01-249 5000 ext. 4132. Telex: 885033 FINTIM G or your usual Financial Times representative.

FINANCIAL TIMES
EUROPE'S BUSINESS NEWSPAPER

The size, contents and publication dates of all surveys are subject to change at the discretion of the Editors.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE COMPOSITE CLOSING PRICES

[illegible]

Continued on Page 35

ملکة ا من الملک

Continued on Page 36

Continued on Page 36

Continued on Page 36

a-dividend also extract b-annual rate of dividend plus stock dividend c-aqueducting dividend d-called e-new yearly rate f-dividend g-annual rate of dividend h-annual rate of dividend in Canadian funds, subject to 10% non-residence tax i-dividend declared after split-up or stock dividend j-dividend declared after split-up or stock dividend k-dividend declared after split-up or stock dividend l-dividend declared after split-up or stock dividend m-dividend declared after split-up or stock dividend n-dividend declared after split-up or stock dividend o-dividend declared after split-up or stock dividend p-dividend declared after split-up or stock dividend q-dividend declared after split-up or stock dividend r-dividend declared after split-up or stock dividend s-dividend declared after split-up or stock dividend t-dividend declared after split-up or stock dividend u-dividend declared after split-up or stock dividend v-dividend declared after split-up or stock dividend w-dividend declared after split-up or stock dividend x-dividend declared after split-up or stock dividend y-dividend declared after split-up or stock dividend z-dividend declared after split-up or stock dividend

AMERICAN

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

BELGIUM/LUXEMBOURG			
Nov.	14	Price	+ or -
ANROB	1,950	-	
Banq Int A Lux	4,600	-	
Bekert & B	5,000	-10	
Comet Ind	1,000	-	
Nov	1,950	-	
MAN	320	-	
Mercantile	1,100	-	
Landerbach	310	-	
Perimeter	1,100	-2	
Verster Damier	1,150	-2	
Vestermag	190	-2	
Nov	1,950	-	
MAN	320	-	
Mercantile	1,100	-	
Landerbach	310	-	
Perimeter	1,100	-2	
Verster Damier	1,150	-2	
Vestermag	190	-2	
Nov	1,950	-	
MAN	320	-	
Mercantile	1,100	-	
Landerbach	310	-	
Perimeter	1,100	-2	
Verster Damier	1,150	-2	
Vestermag	190	-2	
Nov	1,950	-	
MAN	320	-	
Mercantile	1,100	-	
Landerbach	310	-	
Perimeter	1,100	-2	
Verster Damier	1,150	-2	
Vestermag	190	-2	
Nov	1,950	-	
MAN	320	-	
Mercantile	1,100	-	
Landerbach	310	-	
Perimeter	1,100	-2	
Verster Damier	1,150	-2	
Vestermag	190	-2	
Nov	1,950	-	
MAN	320	-	
Mercantile	1,100	-	
Landerbach	310	-	
Perimeter	1,100	-2	
Verster Damier	1,150	-2	
Vestermag	190	-2	
Nov	1,950	-	
MAN	320	-	
Mercantile	1,100	-	
Landerbach	310	-	
Perimeter	1,100	-2	
Verster Damier	1,150	-2	
Vestermag	190	-2	
Nov	1,950	-	
MAN	320	-	
Mercantile	1,100	-	
Landerbach	310	-	
Perimeter	1,100	-2	
Verster Damier	1,150	-2	
Vestermag	190	-2	
Nov	1,950	-	
MAN	320	-	
Mercantile	1,100	-	
Landerbach	310	-	
Perimeter	1,100	-2	
Verster Damier	1,150	-2	
Vestermag	190	-2	
Nov	1,950	-	
MAN	320	-	
Mercantile	1,100	-	
Landerbach	310	-	
Perimeter	1,100	-2	
Verster Damier	1,150	-2	
Vestermag	190	-2	
Nov	1,950	-	
MAN	320	-	
Mercantile	1,100	-	
Landerbach	310	-	
Perimeter	1,100	-2	
Verster Damier	1,150	-2	
Vestermag	190	-2	
Nov	1,950	-	
MAN	320	-	
Mercantile	1,100	-	
Landerbach	310	-	
Perimeter	1,100	-2	
Verster Damier	1,150	-2	
Vestermag	190	-2	
Nov	1,950	-	
MAN	320	-	
Mercantile	1,100	-	
Landerbach	310	-	
Perimeter	1,100	-2	
Verster Damier	1,150	-2	
Vestermag	190	-2	
Nov	1,950	-	
MAN	320	-	
Mercantile	1,100	-	
Landerbach	310	-	
Perimeter	1,100	-2	
Verster Damier	1,150	-2	
Vestermag	190	-2	
Nov	1,950	-	
MAN	320	-	
Mercantile	1,100	-	
Landerbach	310	-	
Perimeter	1,100	-2	
Verster Damier	1,150	-2	
Vestermag	190	-2	

Electrolux	5,450	-50	Novo	1,610	+20	Highland Steel	4,35
Fabron	1,120	-	Novo 6	1,610	-	John Galt	0.0
GC Inno BM	2,950	-	Novo 7	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 8	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 9	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 10	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 11	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 12	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 13	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 14	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 15	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 16	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 17	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 18	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 19	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 20	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 21	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 22	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 23	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 24	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 25	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 26	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 27	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 28	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 29	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 30	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 31	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 32	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 33	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 34	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 35	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 36	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 37	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 38	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 39	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 40	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 41	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 42	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 43	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 44	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 45	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 46	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 47	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 48	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 49	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 50	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 51	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 52	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 53	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 54	1,610	-	OK Beazars	80
Gen. Sec. Belg.	2,950	-	Novo 55	1			

Indices											
NEW YORK DOW JONES											
	1983					Since Douglas's					1988
	High		Low		Nov 7	High		Low			Low
	Nov 14	Nov 11	Nov 8	Nov 5		Nov 14	Nov 11	Nov 8	Nov 5		
Industrials	1254.07	1250.12	1228.87	1222.52	1214.94	1214.94	1272.16	174.39 (114)	1272.15 (9700)	41.22	
Transport	861.65	895.57	890.43	888.19	885.86	885.87	936.37 (1717)	917.04	936.37 (9778)	12.23	
High	1305.08	1296.87	1265.13	1260.96	1263.95	1263.95	1366.07	1366.07	1366.07	107.23	
AUSTRALIA											
All Org. (1/1/80)	710.1	712.5	705.9	705.5	705.1	753.9	753.9	753.9	753.9	697.8	(44)
Metals & Minus. (1/1/80)	918.3	923.5	927.2	927.4	927.4	941.9	941.9	941.9	941.9	911.9	(44)
AUSTRIA											
Credit Anstalt (1/1/82)	54.11	55.82	55.82	54.54	55.82	55.82	55.82	55.82	55.82	48.46	(12)
BELGIUM											
Belgian Sec (5/1/82)	127.37	127.37	125.88	126.54	134.46	134.46	134.46	134.46	134.46	100.50	(1)
DENMARK											
Copenhagen Sec (5/1/83)	180.17	180.75	185.56	185.56	204.22	215.9	215.9	215.9	215.9	100.00	(5)

[illegible][illegible]

Industrial Distress	436.75	435.81	432.37	426.71	401.095(8)	328.128(1)
	418.94	419.35	416.49	411.85	441.292(5)	310.495(4)
TORONTO Composite	2476.1	2473.3	2459.3	2438.9	2556.272(5)	1949.964(1)

U.S. INDICES: CLOSING VALUES. YESTERDAY'S CANADIAN INDICES: LATEST AVAILABLE

(*) Saturday Nov. 12: Japan Nikkei-Dow (c), TSE (c).
 Base values of all indices are 100 except Australia All Ordinary and Maritime
 500, NYSE All Common—25, Standard and Poor's—40, and Toronto—170.
 List named based on 1975: * Including bonds, † 400 Industrial, ‡ 400 Industrial
 plus 40 Utilities, § 40 Financials and 25 Transports, c-Closed, u-Unavailable.

FINANCIAL TIMES SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Please send me details of your subscription rates and how to receive the Financial Times regularly

Name	Position
------	----------

Address

Cut out and send to:
IN EUROPE: Financial Times (Europe) Ltd., Gosholmstrasse 54, D-8000 Frankfurt am Main 1, West Germany — Telephone: Frankfurt (05 31) 7598 0 — Telex: 416123
IN USA: Barbara Walker, Circulation Manager, Financial Times, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10019, USA — Telephone: 469 8300

We inform the bondholders that 4.000 bonds of nominal each EUA 1.000.- have been drawn for redemption in the presence of an "Huissier" in Luxembourg on 19 october 1983.

The bonds will be reimbursed at par on 15 December 1983, coupon due on 15 December 1984 and followings attached according to the modalities of payment on the reverse of the bonds.

The numbers of such drawn bonds are as follows:

N° 00001 to 01023 N° 19024 to 22000

The following bonds previously called for redemption have not yet been presented for payment:

15.12.82							
6197-6221	6227-6231	6271-6272	6339-6343	6349-6352	6354	6356-6359	
6371-6372	6375	6384-6385	6399-6405	6408-6413	6422-6424	6428-6429	
6431	6439-6442	6502-6504	6570-6572	6576-6577	6579-6583	6651	
6658-6660	6665-6669	6670-6670	6673	6748-6750	6752-6753	6826-6830	
6925-6943	6979-6980	7044-7060		7091-7092	7182-7191	7248-7249	
7252-7259	7282-7284	7294-7296	7353-7355	7393-7402	7410-7414	7416-7423	
7472	7502-7506	7520-7521	7540-7545	7569	7633-7636	7654-7657	
7693-7694	7703-7714	7717-7722	7729-7735	7739	7763	7847-7850	
8010-8011	8027-8071	8081	8087-8099	8131-8132	8134	8273-8276	
8291-8292	8368-8371	8382	8421-8424	8444	8568	8571	
8590-8594	8622-8630	8638-8640	8658-8669	8675	8678	8681	
8689	8708-8713	8730	8733	8785		8806-8825	
8926	8966	8979-8988	8990-8992	9004-9033	9037-9041	9062	
9114-9138	9149-9153	9158-9170	9177-9183	9191-9201	9202	9254-9225	
9231-9250	9265-9274	9333-9334	9357-9340	9346-9351	9349-9359	9370-9371	
9481-9482	9487-9492	9503-9504	9525	9528-9529	9542-9586	9600-9601	
9604	9608-9610	9612-9655	9676-9679	9720-9731	9747-9748	9755	
9758-9759	9865-9866	9882-9883	9885-9888	9893	9927-9942	9945-9946	
9950-9951	9959	9960-9961	9966-9975	9980-9991	10040	10047-10064	
10075	10089	10124-10127					
15.12.81							
14986	14948-14951	15216	15503-15504	15693	14374		

**NOTICE TO HOLDERS OF
EUROPEAN DEPOSITORY RECEIPTS
FOR
TOPPAN PRINTING CO., LTD.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pending the payment of a cash dividend to shareholders of the company, the entries in the shareholders' register will be closed for the period December 1-31, 1983 and during this period the company will refuse to register the transfer of shares against the company. Furthermore it has been declared that the shares will be traded ex-dividend on the Tokyo Stock Exchange from December 1, 1983. The dividend of the company for the period ending November 26, 1983 will be paid to the holders of the dividend. A further notice will be published stating the amount and actual date of payment of the dividend. The procedure for the procedure to be followed for obtaining payment of the dividend and the receipt of the dividend by the Depository Company will be used for collection of the dividend.

**NOTICE TO HOLDERS OF
EUROPEAN DEPOSITORY
RECEIPTS EDRs IN
UNY CO. LTD.**

We are pleased to confirm that copies of the Semi-Annual Report for the six months ended 30th August 1983 of Uny Co. Ltd are now available to EDR holders upon application to the office of the European Depository, N.A. 336 Strand, London WC2R 1FB, and the Agent Citibank (Luxembourg) S.A. 15 Avenue Marie Thérèse, Luxembourg.

Citibank N.A.
London Depository

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENT RATES		
	Per line (min. 3 lines) £	Single column cm (min. 3 cms) £
Commercial & Industrial		
Property	8.50	30.00
Residential Property	6.50	22.00
Pointments	9.00	31.50
Business, Investment		
Insurance	9.00	30.00

General	8.50	30.00
Special	6.50	22.00
Motor Cars	6.50	22.00
Trains & Travel	6.50	22.00
Contracts & Tenders	8.50	30.00
Book Publishers	— net 14.00	

Premium positions available
 (Minimum size 30 column line)
 £8.00 per single column cm extra
 For further details write to:
**Classified Advertisement
 Manager**
Financial Times
 1, Cannon Street, EC4P 4BY

Rises and Falls		1983	
	Nov 14	Nov 11	Nov 10
Untraded	1999	932	1861
Traded	967	180	923
Untraded	636	476	646
Traded	377	383	413

FINANCIAL TIMES SUB
ne details of your subscription rates and
Positive
Postleitzassen 54, D-5000 Frankfurt am Main 1, West
Financial Times, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N

882.57 (25.5)	712.39 (21.1)
1095.5 (31.2)	931.6 (27.1)
969.7 (28.6)	704.8 (20.1)
128.14 (3.7)	101.32 (3.1)
1528.60 (45.9)	986.18 (28.1)
855.8 (25.1)	594.4 (17.1)
105.8 (3.0)	104.8 (3.0)

—Dow (c). TSE (c).

—Kraton All Ordinary and Materials

415153

Please send me details of your subscription rates and how to receive the Financial Times regularly

Name _____ Position _____

Company _____ Tel: _____ Telex: _____

Address _____

Cut out and send to:
 EUROPEAN FINANCIAL TIMES (Europe) Ltd., Gulbenkian House, 54, D-2000 Frankfurt am Main 1, West Germany - Telephone: Frankfurt (069 311) 7598-0 - Telex: 418125
 IN USA: Barbara Winkler, Circulation Manager, Financial Times, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10019, USA - Tel: 212 512 2000

4 Clark turns up with manuscript
used in garden (7)
6 He makes a study of Manx
species (15)
7 Entertain with article on
Clio for example (5)

Gregory Jones	0252	25.00	1.58						
James J. Moloney	0252	25.00	1.58						
Anthony White	0252	25.00	1.58						
Richard Williams	0252	25.00	1.58						
Prices on May 4. Best decay Nov 10.									

Local and Overseas Numbers Ltd London Assurance, EC2N 7AS Leo Burnett Leo Burnett									
244.8	----	6.12							
277.1	----	6.12							
244.8	----	6.12							
277.1	----	6.12							

London Assurance, EC2N 7AS Leo Burnett Leo Burnett									
244.8	----	6.12							
277.1	----	6.12							
244.8	----	6.12							
277.1	----	6.12							

London Assurance, EC2N 7AS Leo Burnett Leo Burnett									
244.8	----	6.12							
277.1	----	6.12							
244.8	----	6.12							
277.1	----	6.12							

London Assurance, EC2N 7AS Leo Burnett Leo Burnett									
244.8	----	6.12							
277.1	----	6.12							
244.8	----	6.12							
277.1	----	6.12							

London Assurance, EC2N 7AS Leo Burnett Leo Burnett									
244.8	----	6.12							
277.1	----	6.12							
244.8	----	6.12							
277.1	----	6.12							

London Assurance, EC2N 7AS Leo Burnett Leo Burnett									
244.8	----	6.12							
277.1	----	6.12							
244.8	----	6.12							
277.1	----	6.12							

London Assurance, EC2N 7AS Leo Burnett Leo Burnett									
244.8	----	6.12							
277.1	----	6.12							
244.8	----	6.12							
277.1	----	6.12							

London Assurance, EC2N 7AS Leo Burnett Leo Burnett									
244.8	----	6.12							
277.1	----	6.12							
244.8	----	6.12							
277.1	----	6.12							

London Assurance, EC2N 7AS Leo Burnett Leo Burnett									
244.8	----	6.12							
277.1	----	6.12							
244.8	----	6.12							
277.1	----	6.12							

London Assurance, EC2N 7AS Leo Burnett Leo Burnett									
244.8	----	6.12							
277.1	----	6.12							
244.8	----	6.12							

[illegible]

4	mark turns-dig in	the last tube (7)
5	used in garden (7)	
6	He makes a study of Manx	21 Irishman goes
	species (15)	sitting (6)
7	Entertain with article on	23 To some ext
	Clio for example (5)	refused to prov

PO Boy	438.1211	Geneva 11	(Switzerland)	T-G Pacific	15.035	---
Dollar	980.9	101.5	19.5	T-G Wall St	---	---
L Growth	58881.5	012.0	1.8	T-G Gold	39.36	---
L Int	5880.9	015.0	1.8			
L Future	51702.9	110.5	---			
Long Life	Life (rate of Return)	1.4				
Bridge	Low. Castletown, Low.	0624	824151	United Fund Managers Ltd		
SAIF	96.0	100.0		12-13 Queens Road Central	Hong Kong	5-231417
				S&M/FY	110.11	10.54

The Multiple Sclerosis Society of G.B. and N.
286 Munster Road
Fulham, London SW6 6EE

the 1990s, the number of people in the world who are illiterate has increased from 1.2 billion to 1.5 billion. The number of illiterate people in the world is projected to reach 1.7 billion by the year 2015. The number of illiterate people in the world is projected to reach 1.7 billion by the year 2015. The number of illiterate people in the world is projected to reach 1.7 billion by the year 2015.

the 1990s, the number of people in the United States who are 65 years of age or older has increased by 50% (U.S. Census Bureau, 1997). The number of people aged 65 and older is projected to increase to 20% of the total population by the year 2020 (U.S. Census Bureau, 1997). The number of people aged 65 and older is projected to increase to 20% of the total population by the year 2020 (U.S. Census Bureau, 1997). The number of people aged 65 and older is projected to increase to 20% of the total population by the year 2020 (U.S. Census Bureau, 1997).

OFFSHORE AND OVERSEAS

[illegible]

FOREIGN
DO

Australia to sell wheat to Iraq

By Colin Chapman in Sydney

THE AUSTRALIAN Wheat Board (AWB) has signed a contract to sell 1.25m tonnes of wheat to Iraq. The contract is worth A\$22.5m (\$13.97m) and is the largest sale Australia has ever made to Iraq.

The AWF has made a good start in selling this year's anticipated record 19m tonne crop although it expects to have to carry over at least 6.5m tonnes next year. It has a contract to supply China with about 2.5m tonnes and a 1m tonne deal with Egypt.

AWB chairman Sir Leslie Price yesterday rejected charges, mainly from the U.S., that Australia was undercutting the market with secret subsidies or easy credit.

AWB chairman Sir Leslie Price yesterday rejected charges, mainly from the U.S., that Australia was undercutting the market with secret subsidies or easy credit.

A so-called pizzaru has brought early winter to the entire European part of the Soviet Union. "Not even the blindest inhabitants of Moscow can remember such an early and

● **NIGERIA'S** Plateau State fears it could lose more than 1m hectares of crops to drought this year. State Governor Solomon Lar said 90 per cent of the state's rice crop had been

● **TWO BRAZILIAN**—crushing companies bought 4,500 tonnes each of soya-oil from Argentina—the first imports reported since the Government freed

● **PAKISTAN** may have to revise its cotton export plans because of rain and pest damage.

MARKETS

	Close	High	Low	Prev
Jan 1	9.99	9.27	9.95	9.80
March	9.88	9.25	9.13	9.80
May	10.01	10.62	9.78	10.05
July	10.01	10.20	9.85	10.05
Sept	10.42	10.62	10.25	10.40
Nov	10.63	10.60	10.30	10.70
March	11.16	11.25	11.25	11.41

	Close	High	Low	Prev
Dec	61.77	61.92	61.47	61.85
Feb	61.32	61.45	61.03	61.37
April	63.20	63.35	63.07	63.22

HIVE HOGS 30,000 lb., cents/lb.	
Cross	42.67
High	42.76
Low	42.10
Pr	42.32
orc	46.22
High	46.36
Low	45.01
Pr	46.37
orc	46.40
High	46.50
Low	45.75
Pr	46.32
orc	51.67
High	51.77
Low	50.85
Pr	51.67
orc	53.50
High	53.60
Low	52.80
Pr	53.12
orc	52.25
High	52.40
Low	52.00
Pr	52.10
orc	53.47
High	53.75
Low	53.00
Pr	53.49
orc	52.75
High	52.85
Low	52.00
Pr	—

GRAZE 5,000 bu min, cents/500-bushel	
Cross	355.2
High	356.4
Low	352.8
Pr	356.0
orc	354.4
High	354.8
Low	350.4
Pr	355.2

37.3	315.2	316.2	322.0
293.0	294.4	291.4	294.4

Month	Close	High	Low	Prev
Feb	\$1.85	\$1.92	\$0.60	\$1.15
March	62.12	62.20	60.85	61.55
May	63.72	63.80	62.65	63.30
July	64.75	64.75	63.72	64.25
Aug	63.05	63.10	62.95	62.57

	Close	High	Low	Prev
W	827.0	830.0	812.0	831.0
Th	840.0	847.0	827.0	845.0
Fr	856.0	862.0	842.0	861.0
Mon	863.0	870.0	848.4	867.0
Tue	857.0	865.0	846.0	865.0
Wed	860.0	868.0	835.0	860.0
Th	752.0	755.0	747.0	744.0
Fr	680.4	688.4	671.4	683.0
Mon	693.4	695.0	682.0	700.0

	Close	High	Low	Prev
W	237.5	237.8	232.5	237.5
Th	239.0	239.5	234.0	239.0

August	225.0	226.0	222.5	227.0
September	211.0	212.7	208.0	212.0

	Close	High	Low	Prev
Dec	27.60	28.00	27.20	28.35

	High	Low	Prev
28.15	28.60	28.05	28.47
28.80	29.00	28.45	28.60
28.90	29.10	28.75	28.15
29.05	29.25	28.85	29.10
28.55	28.65	28.40	28.90
27.20	27.30	27.06	27.45
26.80	26.90	26.65	26.10
26.45	26.55	25.27	25.90

	High	Low	Prev
345.4	348.4	343.0	345.0
360.2	363.4	358.2	364.0
380.3	385.4	380.4	386.2
398.0	351.0	346.0	351.2
355.4	356.4	352.4	356.0

POT PRICES—Chicago: loose, lard 10 (same), cents per pound; New York: 10 (same), cents per

penish: Green: 3.00, Red: 3.50, Yellow: 5.00.
Cabbages: Dutch: Red: 4.50.
Beans: 5.80-6.00; Sugar Peas: Kenyan: 1.40-1.50.
Per pound.

man: tray 3.00-3.20, 3.00 Arduous
 french: 24s 8.50-9.50, left
 ch: trays 24s 3.50-4.20, CAC 1.00
 , Dutch: 3.50-3.80

10

CURRENCIES, MONEY and CAPITAL MARKETS

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Dollar eases in quiet trade

The dollar finished slightly weaker overall, after a fairly quiet day awaiting the delayed U.S. money supply figures. It was expected to be down by about 800m, and it was anticipated that all monetary aggregates would remain within the Federal Reserve's target range, while today's meeting of the Federal Open Market Committee is not thought likely to lead to any change in credit policy. Unfounded rumours about the death of President Andropov of the Soviet Union, and further problems in the West German banking system, led to a late surge by the dollar on Friday, but it slid back yesterday morning, although tension in the Middle East continued to lead background support to the currency.

Sterling was on the sidelines, but drifted lower against the dollar and continental.

DOLLAR — Trade weighted index (Bank of England) 127.8 against 127.6 six months ago. The dollar has been appreciating steadily in recent weeks and is once again up for threatening record levels touched in August. Growing tension around the world is supporting the currency, but an equal factor is speculation that an expected surge in money supply will combine with inflationary pressures from strong economic recovery to

prevent an easing in Federal monetary policy. The dollar closed unchanged at DM 2.6760, but fell to FF 8.14 from FF 8.1460; SwFr 2.1625 from SwFr 2.17; and Y224.55 from Y235.50.

STERLING — Trading range against the dollar in 1983 is 2.2915 to 2.3230, October average 2.3023. Trade-weighted index 84.0 all day, compared with 84.1 on Friday, and 83.9 six months ago. The pound has drifted slightly against the dollar, but has tended to move up with the dollar against continental. This trend has been encouraged by unsettled conditions in the Middle East and the threat to Western oil supplies, plus fading hopes of cuts in clearing bank rates.

Sterling opened at \$1.4875-1.4885, but traded within a range of \$1.4840-1.4910, before closing

at \$1.4845-1.4855, a fall of 25 points on the day. The pound also fell to DM 3.8765 from DM 3.9535; FF 12.11; SwFr 3.2145 from SwFr 3.23; and Y348.60 from Y350.50.

D-MARK — Trading range against the dollar in 1983 is 2.2915 to 2.3230, October average 2.3023. Trade-weighted index 125.6 against 125.6 six months ago. The D-mark is losing ground to the dollar once again and could threaten the 10-year low touched in August. Although German interest rates are relatively firm, partly reflecting concern about money supply growth, expectations that U.S. interest rates will remain high, coupled with concern about tension in the Middle East, have returned the dollar to favour.

The D-mark was slightly weaker all round at yesterday's

fixing in Frankfurt. The dollar rose marginally to DM 2.6681 from DM 2.6671, without any Bundesbank intervention, as the market awaited the start of trading in New York and the release of the latest U.S. money supply figures, postponed from Friday. Sterling rose to DM 3.8720 from DM 3.9570. Within the EMS, the Dutch guilder improved to DM 80.32 from DM 80.30 per FF 100 and the Belgian franc stronger at DM 4.8260 per FF 100 from DM 4.8220.

FRENCH FRANC — Trading range against the dollar in 1983 is 2.22 to 2.30, October average 2.2455. Trade-weighted index 67.0 against 67.0 six months ago. The French franc is comfortably placed with the EMS and has received a boost from improving balance of payments figures and in September the first trade surplus for more than four years. This should help to restrain any pressures on the franc featuring in an EMS realignment.

The French franc showed mixed changes at yesterday's fixing in Paris. The dollar slipped to FF 8.1125 from FF 8.1370 while sterling improved slightly to FF 8.1125 from FF 8.1274. Within the EMS the D-mark was lower at FF 3.0415 compared with FF 3.0425 while the Belgian franc was firmer at FF 14.977 from FF 14.975.

FINANCIAL FUTURES

Gilts ease

Gilts prices finished at the lows of the day in the London International Financial Futures Exchange yesterday. Values were marked up initially in expectations of increased institutional participation with a better finish to U.S. markets on Friday and encouraging UK inflation figures also serving as underlying factors. However, prices eased on a weaker pound and a rather indifferent cash market, reflecting some degree of profit-taking and lack of follow through after Friday's sharp rally. Nevertheless, the underpinnings remained a little more bullish in the long term despite recent predictions of higher base rates and inflation. The December contract opened at 90.35, up from 90.32, but slid during the afternoon to finish back at 90.32.

Short sterling prices were virtually unchanged, reflecting a rather static cash market. There appeared to be little interest in this sector in view of conflicting views on the scope for lower interest rates in the short term.

The December price opened at

LONDON

THREE-MONTH EURO-DOLLAR

111.12 up from 111.03 on Friday

and rose to a best level of 111.18

before easing to close at 110.17.

Euro-dollar prices opened firmer ahead of an expected fall in U.S. money supply figures due for release after the closure of UK markets. The sentiment behind the firmer trend was not continued after the opening of U.S. markets, however, with most instruments being sold in preference for the dollar. Consequently London prices finished back at Friday's closing levels. The December contract opened at 90.35, up from 90.32, but slid during the afternoon to finish back at 90.32.

Short sterling prices were virtually unchanged, reflecting a rather static cash market. There appeared to be little interest in this sector in view of conflicting views on the scope for lower interest rates in the short term.

The December price opened at

CHICAGO

U.S. TREASURY BONDS (CBT)

30-year 120 1/2 up from 120 1/4

on Friday

and rose to a best level of 120 3/4

before easing to close at 120 1/4.

Euro-dollar prices opened firmer ahead of an expected fall in U.S. money supply figures due for release after the closure of UK markets. The sentiment behind the firmer trend was not continued after the opening of U.S. markets, however, with most instruments being sold in preference for the dollar. Consequently London prices finished back at Friday's closing levels. The December contract opened at 90.35, up from 90.32, but slid during the afternoon to finish back at 90.32.

Short sterling prices were virtually unchanged, reflecting a rather static cash market. There appeared to be little interest in this sector in view of conflicting views on the scope for lower interest rates in the short term.

The December price opened at

STERLING

111.12 up from 111.03 on Friday

and rose to a best level of 111.18

before easing to close at 110.17.

Euro-dollar prices opened firmer ahead of an expected fall in U.S. money supply figures due for release after the closure of UK markets. The sentiment behind the firmer trend was not continued after the opening of U.S. markets, however, with most instruments being sold in preference for the dollar. Consequently London prices finished back at Friday's closing levels. The December contract opened at 90.35, up from 90.32, but slid during the afternoon to finish back at 90.32.

Short sterling prices were virtually unchanged, reflecting a rather static cash market. There appeared to be little interest in this sector in view of conflicting views on the scope for lower interest rates in the short term.

The December price opened at

U.S. TREASURY BONDS (CBT)

30-year 120 1/2 up from 120 1/4

on Friday

and rose to a best level of 120 3/4

before easing to close at 120 1/4.

Euro-dollar prices opened firmer ahead of an expected fall in U.S. money supply figures due for release after the closure of UK markets. The sentiment behind the firmer trend was not continued after the opening of U.S. markets, however, with most instruments being sold in preference for the dollar. Consequently London prices finished back at Friday's closing levels. The December contract opened at 90.35, up from 90.32, but slid during the afternoon to finish back at 90.32.

Short sterling prices were virtually unchanged, reflecting a rather static cash market. There appeared to be little interest in this sector in view of conflicting views on the scope for lower interest rates in the short term.

The December price opened at

STERLING

111.12 up from 111.03 on Friday

and rose to a best level of 111.18

before easing to close at 110.17.

Euro-dollar prices opened firmer ahead of an expected fall in U.S. money supply figures due for release after the closure of UK markets. The sentiment behind the firmer trend was not continued after the opening of U.S. markets, however, with most instruments being sold in preference for the dollar. Consequently London prices finished back at Friday's closing levels. The December contract opened at 90.35, up from 90.32, but slid during the afternoon to finish back at 90.32.

Short sterling prices were virtually unchanged, reflecting a rather static cash market. There appeared to be little interest in this sector in view of conflicting views on the scope for lower interest rates in the short term.

The December price opened at

U.S. TREASURY BONDS (CBT)

30-year 120 1/2 up from 120 1/4

on Friday

and rose to a best level of 120 3/4

before easing to close at 120 1/4.

Euro-dollar prices opened firmer ahead of an expected fall in U.S. money supply figures due for release after the closure of UK markets. The sentiment behind the firmer trend was not continued after the opening of U.S. markets, however, with most instruments being sold in preference for the dollar. Consequently London prices finished back at Friday's closing levels. The December contract opened at 90.35, up from 90.32, but slid during the afternoon to finish back at 90.32.

Short sterling prices were virtually unchanged, reflecting a rather static cash market. There appeared to be little interest in this sector in view of conflicting views on the scope for lower interest rates in the short term.

The December price opened at

STERLING

111.12 up from 111.03 on Friday

and rose to a best level of 111.18

before easing to close at 110.17.

Euro-dollar prices opened firmer ahead of an expected fall in U.S. money supply figures due for release after the closure of UK markets. The sentiment behind the firmer trend was not continued after the opening of U.S. markets, however, with most instruments being sold in preference for the dollar. Consequently London prices finished back at Friday's closing levels. The December contract opened at 90.35, up from 90.32, but slid during the afternoon to finish back at 90.32.

Short sterling prices were virtually unchanged, reflecting a rather static cash market. There appeared to be little interest in this sector in view of conflicting views on the scope for lower interest rates in the short term.

The December price opened at

U.S. TREASURY BONDS (CBT)

YOUR COMPANY IMAGE

Send this advertisement attached to your company letterhead for a free design incorporating your logo.

- Key Rings
- Cuff Links
- Paperweights
- Enamel Badges

Promotional Gifts
Manufactured by Manhattan-Windsor
STEWART ST. BIRMINGHAM B18 7AF TELE: 338633

For expertise in the futures markets worldwide.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE WEEKLY REPORT

Do you need to be aware of the price movements in the Major Currency and Deposit Markets, without ploughing through masses of information and technical jargon. This new service records price movements together with clear concise reporting to pinpoint dominant market influences, backed by charts and fundamental analysis. (First free reports £12.50)

WRITE FOR FREE COPY and further details: 17, Norfolk Mansions, Prince of Wales Road, London S.W.11.

CLUBS

ART GALLERIES

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

RAMON'S NIGHTCLUB RESTAURANT

